12-12020-mg Doc 7153-31 Filed 06/19/14 Entered 06/23/14 11:38:52 defendants motion to bar expert report Pg 1 of 75

FLEISCHER, FLEISCHER & SUGLIA BRIAN M. FLEISCHER, ESQUIRE AHMED M. SOLIMAN, ESQUIRE Plaza 1000 at Main Street Suite 208 Voorhees, NJ 08043

# Attorneys for Defendant GMAC Mortgage, LLC

Frank J. Reed, III,

Plaintiff,

vs.

GMAC Mortgage, LLC; Residential Funding Corp.; and John Does 1-30,

Defendants.

NEW JERSEY SUPERIOR COURT BURLINGTON COUNTY LAW DIVISION

CIVIL ACTION

**DOCKET NO: BUR- L-1526-10** 

NOTICE OF MOTION TO BAR EXPERT REPORT

TO: Motions Clerk

Superior Court of New Jersey Burlington County – Law Division 49 Rancocas Road Mount Holly, NJ 08060

Law Offices of Jeffrey S. Walters, LLC 3000 Atrium Way Suite 2201 Mount Laurel, NJ 08054 Attn: Jeffrey S. Walters, Esq.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the undersigned will apply to the above named Court, at the Burlington County Courthouse, 49 Rancocas Road, Mount Holly, NJ 08060, on January 6, 2012, at 9:00 A.M., or soon thereafter, for the entry of an Order Barring Plaintiff's Expert Report. Please be advised that Defendant will rely on the attached brief. Defendant requests oral argument if opposition is filed.

Brian M. Fleischer, Esquire Fleischer, Fleischer & Suglia Attorneys for Defendant

Dated:

# PROOF OF MAILING

In compliance with Rule 1:6, et seq., the original of the within Notice of Motion has been filed with the Motion's Clerk of Burlington County and copies have been served upon Plaintiff's counsel via Legal Courier and Regular Mail pursuant to Rule 1:5, et seq.

I hereby certify that the foregoing statements made by me are true. I am aware that if any of the foregoing statements made by me are willfully false, I am subject to punishment.

Pursuant to Rule 1:6-2(e), the undersigned:

- () waives oral argument and consents to disposition on the papers;
- (X) does not request oral argument unless opposition is filed;
- () requests oral argument.

A proposed form of Order is attached.

Brian M. Fleischer, Esquire Fleischer, Fleischer & Suglia Attorneys for Defendant

Dated:

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FLEISCHER, FLEISCHER & SUGLIA
BRIAN M. FLEISCHER, ESQUIRE
AHMED M. SOLIMAN, ESQUIRE
Plaza 1000 at Main Street

Suite 208

() Unopposed

Voorhees, NJ 08043 Attorneys for Defendant GMAC Mortgage, LLC	
Frank J. Reed, III,	NEW JERSEY SUPERIOR COURT BURLINGTON COUNTY LAW DIVISION
Plaintiff, vs.	CIVIL ACTION
GMAC Mortgage, LLC; Residential Funding Corp.; and John Does 1-30,	DOCKET NO: BUR- L-1526-10
Defendants.	ORDER
Doronamo.	!
THE ABOVE MATTER being opened to the	ne Court upon the motion of Ahmed M.
Soliman, Esq., of Fleischer, Fleischer & Suglia, attor	rney for Defendant GMAC Mortgage, LLC, to
Bar Plaintiff's Expert Reports, and the Court having	considered the argument presented on the
papers and any opposition presented by Plaintiff, and	l for good cause shown;
IT IS on this day of	, 2012;
ORDERED that Plaintiff's expert report of M	Mr. Evan Hendricks is hereby barred as a net
opinion; and	
IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that a copy of	f this Order be served upon all counsel, within
days from the date of the receipt of the sam	e.
	J.S.C.
The within Notice of Motion was:	
() Opposed	

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FLEISCHER, FLEISCHER & SUGLIA BRIAN M. FLEISCHER, ESQUIRE AHMED M. SOLIMAN, ESQUIRE Plaza 1000 at Main Street Suite 208 Voorhees, NJ 08043

# Attorneys for Defendant GMACM Mortgage, LLC

Frank J. Reed, III,

Plaintiff,
vs.

Plaintiff,
CIVIL ACTION

GMACM Mortgage, LLC; Residential Funding
Corp.; and John Does 1-30,

NEW JERSEY SUPERIOR COURT
BURLINGTON COUNTY
LAW DIVISION

CIVIL ACTION

DOCKET NO: BUR- L-1526-10

Defendants.

# BRIEF IN SUPPORT OF DEFENDANT'S MOTION TO BAR EXPERT REPORT

Defendant GMACM Mortgage, LLC ("GMACM") submits this brief in support of its Motion to Bar Plaintiff's Expert Report of Mr. Evan Hendricks on the grounds that said report is a "net opinion."

## I. Factual Background

- 1. Frank J. Reed, Ill and Christina A. Reed ("Plaintiffs") executed a Note in favor of Defendant GMACM (hereinafter "the Note") securing the sum of \$1,000,000.00. See a true and correct copy of the Note attached hereto as Exhibit "A" and incorporated herein by reference.
- 2. To secure the payment of the Note, Plaintiffs executed a Mortgage in favor of GMACM (hereinafter the "Mortgage"), which Mortgage was filed against Plaintiffs' property at 817 Matlack Drive, Moorestown, NJ (the "Property"). See a true and correct copy of the Mortgage attached hereto as Exhibit "B" and incorporated herein by reference.
  - 3. As a result of Plaintiffs' failing to remit the mortgage payments when due,

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Defendants commenced a Mortgage Foreclosure Action (the "Foreclosure Action") and filed a Lis Pendis on the Property. See a true and correct copy of the Foreclosure Complaint attached hereto as Exhibit "C" and incorporated herein by reference.

- 4. Plaintiffs claim that GMACM failed to send them a "Notice of Intent to Foreclose" (the "Notice"), prior to filing the Foreclosure Action and filing the Lis Pendis. See a true and correct copy of the Complaint attached hereto as Exhibit "D" and incorporated herein by reference.
- 5. As a result of such alleged failure, Plaintiffs claim that they were injured. <u>See</u> Complaint attached hereto as Exhibit "D."
- 6. Specifically, Plaintiffs claim that, had the Defendants sent them the Notice, they would have had time to refinance the Property and payoff the Defendants. See Exhibit "D," paragraph 15 and 16 of the First Count.
- 7. Plaintiffs also claim that their credit was negatively affected by Defendants failure to send the Notice. See Exhibit "D," paragraph 4 of the Fifth Count.
- 8. Plaintiffs have been living on the Property for over three (3) years without making a single Mortgage payment since April of 2008. See a true and correct copy of the Deposition of Frank Reed, p. 23:6-17 attached hereto as Exhibit "E" and incorporated herein by reference.
- 9. The Foreclosure Action was dismissed without prejudice. See a true and correct copy of the Honorable Michael J. Hogan's Order dated February 9, 2009 and attached written decision dismissing the Foreclosure Action attached hereto as Exhibit "F" and incorporated herein by reference.
  - 10. Plaintiff, Christina A. Reed voluntarily withdrew as a Plaintiff in this lawsuit.
- 11. Plaintiff, Frank J. Reed, Ill claims he has bought and sold properties for many years. See Exhibit "E" at page 11 attached hereto.

- 12. Discovery was exchanged in this matter, including the "expert report" of Mr. Evan Hendricks with regard to the alleged damages to Plaintiff's credit, which Plaintiff provided to GMACM on November 28, 2011. See a true and correct copy of Plaintiff's Expert Witness Report of Evan Hendricks attached hereto as Exhibit "G" and incorporated herein by reference.
  - 13. Plaintiff's expert report is deficient in many respects and is a "net opinion."
- 14. Among other things, the report of Mr. Hendricks fails to provide a comparative analysis of Plaintiff's credit report before GMACM allegedly failed to provide proper foreclosure notification, and Plaintiff's credit report after.
- 15. In addition, the report fails to demonstrate any causal link between GMACM's actions and Plaintiff's alleged damages. This is especially true given that Plaintiff has numerous other delinquencies, foreclosures, unpaid judgments, tax liens and other negative credit issues. See Exhibit "E" at page 22 - 23, 37 - 38, 49 - 50 attached hereto.
- 16. The report makes sweeping assumptions of facts not in evidence, including the notion that Plaintiff has suffered from "mental anguish" and "stress" in the amount of \$350,000.00, despite the fact that Mr. Hendricks is not a psychologist, and therefore not qualified to report the existence of such conditions on the part of Plaintiff, much less set an amount of money with which Plaintiff could become whole again. See Exhibit "G" at pages 4-5 attached hereto.
  - In light of the above listed facts, Defendant now moves to bar the expert report of 17. Mr. Evan Hendricks on the grounds that it is a "net opinion."

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#### Legal Argument II.

Plaintiff's expert report is inadmissible under New Jersey law because it is a Α. "net opinion."

Plaintiff's expert report is inadmissible under New Jersey law and, as such, the "expert testimony" of Mr. Hendricks must be barred. Under New Jersey law, if scientific, technical, or other specialized knowledge will assist the trier of fact to understand the evidence or to determine a fact in issue, a witness qualified as an expert by knowledge, skill, experience, \*training or education may testify thereto in the form of an opinion or otherwise. N.J.R.E. 702. The facts or data in a particular case upon which an expert bases an opinion or inference may be in one it those perceived by or made known to the expert at or before the hearing. N.J.R.E. 703. The admission or exclusion of expert testimony is within the discretion of the trial court. State v. Torres, 183 N.J. 554, 567 (2005).

> However, in order to be admitted, an expert's opinion testimony must have a factual and scientific basis. Jimenez v. GNOC Corp., 286 N.J. Super. 533, 540 (App. Div. 1996) (emphasis added). An opinion lacking a foundation is worthless. Stanley Co. of America v. Hercules Power Co., 16 N.J. 295, 305 (1954). When an expert's opinion is merely a bare conclusion unsupported by factual evidence, i.e. a "net opinion," it is inadmissible. Buckelew v. Grossbard, 87 N.J. 512, 524 (1981). The same is true of opinions based on unfounded speculation or mere possibilities. Koruba v. American Honda Motor Co., 396 N.J. Super. 517, 526 (App. Div. 2007).

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In the case at hand, the expert report submitted by Mr. Evan Hendricks on behalf of Plaintiff lacks the requisite factual basis and technical analysis to qualify as an admissible and reliable expert report under New Jersey Law. See Expert Report of Mr. Evan Hendricks attached hereto as Exhibit "G." In fact, the report is little more than a general treatise on the credit reporting industry. Specifically, Mr. Hendricks has failed to cite specific credit reports of coursen I pres & post for event year is what he gent creat lang But we are at not talking into almo peul aprent dampe we are talking G:\MyFiles\Clients\GMAC\Reed\M2 Bar Expert Testiomy\Brief.doc

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Plaintiff that were examined, what date those reports were generated, or how GMACM's actions may have effected said reports. Such an analysis is critical to proving Plaintiff's allegations, especially since Plaintiff himself admits that he does not know what the status of his credit was in 2008, immediately prior to foreclosure action filed by GMACM, and is uncertain whether or not he was past due on any of his mortgages at that time. See Deposition of Frank Reed at pages 35 - 36 attached hereto as Exhibit "E." Plaintiff also stated that he is not sure how the foreclosure action affected his credit -- if at all. See Deposition of Frank Reed at page 66 attached hereto as Exhibit "E."

THE CAW Moreover, the report of Mr. Hendricks also fails to provide a comparison of Plaintiff's credit report before GMACM allegedly failed to provide proper foreclosure notification, and Plaintiff's credit report after. Rather than provide a numerical analysis based on documentation of Plaintiff's credit history, Mr. Hendricks merely states that "It's logical that a foreclosure is devastating to a consumer's creditworthiness." See Exhibit "G" at page 2 attached hereto. However, Mr. Hendricks' personal opinion as to what is logical or not is an insufficient basis upon which to formulate an "expert opinion" under the law. It must be supported by a factual Dentice every use of why All outer analysis, which is missing from this report.

Mr. Hendricks follows up his unsupported conclusion about the effect of the foreclosure fail action upon Plaintiff's credit with another unfounded statement that "GMACM's Foreclosure doomed Mr. Reed's Refinance" and that the refinance "would have enabled Mr. Reed to catch up Acres to on his debts, including the GMAC mortgage..." See Exhibit "G" at page 3 attached hereto. However, such a statement is not only unsupported by any factual documentation, it is also purely speculative as there is no way of knowing whether or not Plaintiff would have fulfilled his obligation to GMAC. To the contrary, his prior failure to make timely payments on the loan

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indicated that he had no intention to fulfill his admitted obligation to GMACM.

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captally in the services Furthermore, even if Plaintiff could provide documentation to demonstrate that his credit score had been lowered and/or that, as a result, he had been denied credit, Plaintiff has failed to demonstrate any type of causal link between GMACM's actions and his alleged damages related to the current status of his credit. This is especially true given that Plaintiff has numerous other delinquencies and credit issues. For example, TD Bank has initiated Foreclosure proceedings on three of Plaintiff's other properties from the property at issue in this matter. See Deposition of Frank Reed at pages 22 - 23 attached hereto as Exhibit "E." Plaintiff also has unpaid judicial judgments against him. See Exhibit "E" at pages 37 - 38. And Plaintiff has had a tax lien against him for \$34,000.00. See Exhibit "E" at pages 49 - 50. All of these delinquencies would have a negative effect on Plaintiff's credit score, yet the "expert opinion" of Mr. Hendricks fails to even mention them, much less analyze their impact.

> Amazingly, Mr. Hendricks also places a monetary amount for damages that he believes Plaintiff is owed for such conditions as "mental anguish" and "stress." See Exhibit "G" at pages 4-5 attached hereto. Specifically, Mr. Hendricks states that "Mr. Reed's non-economic damages relate to the stress, humiliation, mental anguish and frustration stemming from being blindsided by GMAC's non-compliant foreclosure..." Id. However, Mr. Hendricks is not a licensed psychologist, and is not qualified to comment on the existence of such conditions much less opine on the amount of money required to make Plaintiff whole again. Furthermore, Plaintiff has not produced any medical records. In short, Mr. Hendrick's "expert report" is the quintessential "net opinion," and should be barred accordingly.

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# III. Conclusion

For the foregoing reasons, Defendant GMACM requests that the Court grant its Motion to Bar the Expert Testimony of Mr. Evan Hendricks.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brian M. Fleischer, Esquire Ahmed M. Soliman, Esquire Attorneys for Defendant

Dated:	

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EXHIBIT "A"

Loan Number: 21063843

defendants

MIN: 100034200057200556

# FIXED/ADJUSTABLE RATE NOTE

(LIBOR One - Year Index (As Published In The Wall Street Journal) - Rate Caps)

THIS NOTE PROVIDES FOR A CHANGE IN MY FIXED INTEREST RATE TO AN ADJUSTABLE INTEREST RATE. THIS NOTE LIMITS THE AMOUNT MY ADJUSTABLE INTEREST RATE CAN CHANCE AT ANY ONE TIME AND THE MAXIMUM RATE I MUST

MAY 31, 2006 [Date]

SHERMAN OAKS

CALIFORNIA

(Chyl

[State]

817 MATLACK DRIVE, MOORESTOWN, NEW JERSEY 08057 Property Address

#### **BORROWER'S PROMISE TO PAY**

In return for a toan that I have received. I promise to pay U.S. \$ 1,000,000.00 (this amount is called "Principal"), plus interest, to the order of Lender. Lender is METROCITIES MORTGAGE, LLC, A LINITED LIABILITY COMPANY

I will make all payments under this Note in the form of cash, theck or money order.

I understand that Lender may transfer this Note. Lender or anyone who takes this Note by transfer and who is entitled to receive payments under this Note is called the "Note Holder"

#### INTEREST

Interest will be charged on unpaid principal until the full amount of Principal has been paid. I will pay Interest 6.375 %. The Interest rate I will pay may change in accordance with Section 4 of this at a yearly rate of

The interest rate regulaed by this Section 2 and Section 4 of this Note is the rate I will pay both before and after any default described in Section 7(8) of this Note.

## PAYMENTS

(A) Time and Place of Payments

I will pay principal and loteress by making a payment every month.

I will make my mouthly payments on the 15t day of each month beginning on JULY 1

2006 . I will make these payments every month until I have paid all of the principal and interest and any other charges described below that I may owe under this Note. Each monthly payment will be applied as of its scheduled due date and will be applied to interest before Principal. If, on JUNE 1, 2036 , [ still owe amounts under this Note, I will pay those amounts in full on that date, which is called the "Maturity Date."

I will make my monthly payments at 15301 VENTURA BLVD., STEID300, SHERMAN OAKS, CALIFORNIA 91403

or at a different place if required by the Note Holder.

(B) Amount of My Initial Monthly Payments \*\* See attached Interest Only Note Adjection. Each of my Initial monthly payments will be in the amount of U.S. 16, 238.70 amount may change.

(C) Monthly Payment Changes

Changes to my monthly payment will reflect changes in the unpaid principal of my loan and in the interest rate that I must pay. The Note Holder will determine my new interest rate and the changed amount of my monthly payment in accordance with Section 4 of this Note.

MULTISTATE FIXEDIAD JUSTABLE RATE NOTE - WS.J One-Year LIBOR Slogle Family - Family Mare MODIFIED INSTRUMENT Form 3528 6/01 Page 1 of 5

## 4. ADJUSTABLE INTEREST RATE AND MONTHLY PAYMENT CHANGES

(A) Change Dates

The initial fixed interest rate I will pay will change to an adjustable interest rate on the 150 day of JUNE, 2011 and the adjustable interest rate I will pay may change on that day every 12th month thereafter. The date on which my initial fixed interest rate changes to an adjustable interest rate, and each date on which my adjustable interest rate could change, is called a "Change Date."

(B) The Index

Beginning with the first Change Date, my adjustable interest rate will be based on an Index. The "Index" is the average of interbank offered rates for one-year U.S. dollar-denominated deposits in the London market ("LIBOR"), as published in *The Wall Street Journal*. The most recent Index figure available as of the date 45 days before each Change Date is called the "Current Index."

If the Index is no longer available, the Note Holder will choose a new Index that is based upon comparable information. The Note Holder will give me notice of this choice.

(C) Cakulation of Changes

Before each Change Date, the Note Holder will calculate my new Interest rate by adding TWO AND 25071000 percentage points [ 2,250%] to the Content Index. The Note Holder will then round the result of this addition to the nearest one-eighth of one percentage point (0.125%). Subject to the limits stated to Section 4(D) below, this rounded amount will be my new interest rate until the next Change Date.

The Note Holder will then determine the amount of the monthly payment that would be sufficient to sepay the unpuld principal that I am expected to owe at the Change Date in full on the Maturity Date at my new interest rate in substantially equal payments. The result of this calculation will be the new amount of my monthly payment.

(D) Limits on Interest Rate Changes

The Interest rate I am required to pay at the Brst Change Date will not be greater than 11.375% or less than 2.250%. Thereafter, my adjustable interest rate will never be increased or decreased on any single Change Date by more than TWO ANO 000/1000 percentage points from the late of interest I have been paying for the preceding 12 months. My interest rate will never be greater than 11.375%.

## (E) Effective Date of Changes

My new interest rate will become effective on each Change Date. I will pay the amount of my new monthly payment beginning on the first monthly payment date after the Change Date until the amount of my monthly payment changes again.

(F) Notire of Changes

The Note Holder will deliver or mall to me a notice of any changes in my initial fixed interest rate to an adjustable interest rate and of any change. The notice will include the amount of my monthly payment, any information required by law to be given to me and also the little and telephone number of a person who will answer any question I may have regarding the notice.

## 5. BORROWER'S RIGHT TO PREPAY

I have the right to make payments of Principal at any time before they are due. A payment of Principal only is known as a "Prepayment." When I make a Prepayment, I will tell the Note Holder in writing that I am doing so. I may not designate a payment as a Prepayment if I have not made all the monthly payments due under this Note.

I may make a full Prepayment or partial Prepayments without paying any Prepayment charge. The Note Holder will use my Prepayments to reduce the amount of Principal that I owe under this Note. However, the Note Holder may apply my Prepayment to the accrued and unpaid interest on the Prepayment amount before applying my Prepayment to reduce the Principal amount of this Note. If I make a partial Prepayment, there will be no changes in the due dates of my monthly payments unless the Note Holder agrees in welling to those changes. My partial

MULTISTATE FIXEO/ADJUSTABLE RATE NOTE - WSJ One-Year LIBOR Single Family - Famili Mair MODIFIED INSTRUMENT Form 3528 6/01 Page 2 of 5

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#### LOAN CHARGES

If a taw, which applies to this loan and which sets maximum loan charges, is finally interpreted so that the interest or other foan charges collected or to be collected in connection with this loan exceed the permitted limits, then: (a) any such loan charge shall be reduced by the amount necessary to reduce the charge to the permitted limit; and (b) any soms already collected from me that exceeded permitted limits will be refunded to me. The Note Holder may choose to make this refund by reducing the Principal Love under this Note or by making a direct payment to me. If a refund reduces Principal, the reduction will be reased as a partial Prepayment.

### 7. BORROWER'S FAILURE TO PAY AS REQUIRED

(A) Late Charges for Overdue Payments

If the Note Holder has not received the full amount of any monthly payment by the end of 15 calendar days after the date it is due. I will pay a fate charge to the Note Holder. The amount of the charge will be

5. 000 % of my overdoe payment of principal and Interest. I will pay this late charge promptly but only once on each late payment

(B) Default

If I do not pay the full amount of each mouthly payment on the date it is due, I will be in default.

(C) Notice of Delaute

If I am in default, the Note Holder may send me a written notice telling me that If I do not pay the overdue amount by a certain date, the Note Holder may require me to pay immediately the full amount of Principal that has not been paid and all the interest that I time on that amount. That date must be at Jeast 30 days after the date on which the nutlee its mailed to use or delivered by other means.

(D) No Waiser By Note Holder

Even if, at a time when I am to default, the Note Holder does not require me to pay inuncilately in full as described above, the Note Holder will still have the right to do so if I am in default at a faler time.

(E) Payment of Note Halder's Costs and Expenses

If the Note Holder has required one to pay insurediately in full as described above, the Note Holder will have the right to be paid back by the lor all of its costs and expenses in enforcing this Note to the extent not prohibited by applicable law. Those expenses include, for example, reasonable attorneys' fees.

#### 8. GIVING OF NOTICES

Unless applicable law requires a different method, any notice that must be given to me under this Note will be given by delivering it or by mailing it by first class mail to me at the Property Address above or at a different address if I give the Note Holder a notice of my different address.

Unless the Note Holder requires a different method, any notice that must be given to the Note Holder under this Note will be given by mailing it by first class mail to the Note Holder at the address stated in Section 3(A) above it as a different address if it am given a matter of that different address.

# 9. OBLIGATIONS OF PERSONS UNDER THIS NOTE

If more than one person signs this Note, each person is fully and personally ubligated to keep all of the promises made in this Note, including the promise to pay the full amount owed. Any person who is a guarantor, surely or endorser of this Note is also obligated to do sheet things. Any person who takes over these obligations, including the obligations of a guarantor, surely or endorser of this Note, is also obligated to keep all of the promises made in this Note. The Note Holder may enforce its rights under this Note against each person individually or against all of us together. This means that any one of us may be required to pay all of the amounts owed under this Note.

MULTISTATE FIXED/ADJUSTABLE RATE NOTE - WSJ One-Year LIBOR Single Family - Famile Mee MODIFIED INSTRUMENT Form 3528-6/01 Page 3 of 5

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OF STREET TO THE SAND

#### 10. WAIVERS

I and any other person who has obligations under this Note waive the rights of Presentatent and Notice of Dishanor. "Presentment" means the right to require the Note Habiter to demand payment of amounts due. "Nutice of Dishonar" means the right to regulae the Note Holder to give notice to other persons that antounts due have not

### 11. UNIFORM SECURED NOTE

This Note is a uniform instrument with limited variations in some jurisdictions. In addition to the protections given to the Note Holder under this Note, a Morigage, Deed of Trust, or Security Deed (the "Security Instrument"), dated the same date as this Note, protects the Note Fluider from possible lusses that might result if I do not keep the promises that I make in this Note. That Security Instrument describes how and under what conditions I may be required to make transcrible payment in full of all amounts I owe under this Note. Some of those conditions read as follows:

[A]. Until may Initial fixed Interest rate changes to an adjustable Interest rate under the terms stated in Section 4 above. Uniform Covenant 18 of the Security Instrument shall read as follows:

Transfer of the Property or a Beneficial Interest in Borrower. As used in this Section 18, "Interest in the Property" means any legal or beneficial interest to the Property, including, but not limited to, those beneficial interests transferred in a bond for deed, contract for deed, instaltment sales contract or escrow agreement, the lutent of which is the transfer of title by Borrower at a future date to a purchaser.

If all or any part of the Property or any Interest in the Property is sold or transferred for if Borrower is not a natural person and a beneficial interest in Borrower is sold or transferred) without Lender's prior written consent. Lender may require immediate payment in full of all sums secured by this Security litstrument. However, this option shall not be exercised by Lender if such exercise is prohibited by

If Lender exercises this option, Lender shall give Bosrower notice of acceleration. The notice shall provide a period of not less than 30 days from the date the notice is given in accordance with Section 15 within which Borrower must pay all soms secured by this Security Instrument. If Horrower fails so pay these sums prior to the expiration of this period. Lender may invoke any remedies permitted by this Security Instrument without further notice or demand on Borrower.

(B) When my fulfal fixed interest rate changes to an adjustable interest rate under the terms stated in Section 4 above, Uniform Covenant EB of the Security Instrument described in Section 11(A) above shall then cease to be in effect, and Uniform Covenant 18 of the Security Instrument shall Instead read as follows:

Transfer of the Property or a Beneficial Interest In Borrower. As used in this Section 18, "Interest in the Property" means any legal or beneficial interest in the Property, including, but not limited to, those beneficial interests transferred in a bond for deed, contract for deed, installment sales contract or escrow agreement, the intent of which is the transfer of this by Borrower at a future date to a purchaser.

If all or any part of the Property or any Interest in the Property Is sold or transferred for if Borrower Is not a natural person and a beneficial interest in Borrower is sold or transferred) without Lender's prior written consent. Lender may require immediate payment in full of all sums secured by this Security Instrument. However, this option shall not be exercised by Lender II such exercise is prohibited by Applicable Law. Lender also shall not exercise this option If: (a) Borrower causes to be submitted to Lender information required by Lender to evaluate the Intended transferee as if a new from were being made to the transferee; and (b) Lender reasonably determines that Lender's security will not be impaired

MULTISTATE FIXED/ADJUSTABLE RATE NOTE - WSJ One-Year LIBOR Single Family - Fit form 3\$28, 6701 Funnie Mee MODIFIED INSTRUMENT Page 4 of 5

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by the loan assumption and that the risk of a breach of any covenant or agreement in this Security Instrument is acceptable to Lender.

To the extent permitted by Applicable Law, Lender may charge a reasonable fee as a condition to Lender's consent to the toan assumption. Lender also may require the transferee to sign an assumption agreement than is acceptable to Lender and that obligates the transferee to keep all the promises and agreements made in the Note and in this Security Instrument. Buttower will continue to be obligated under the Note and this Security Instrument releases Borrower in writing.

If Lender exercises the option to require immediate payment in full, Lender shall give Borrower notice of acceleration. The notice shall provide a period of not less than 30 days from the date the notice is given in accordance with Section 15 within which Borrower most pay all sums secured by this Security Instrument. If Borrower falls to pay these sums prior to the expiration of this period, Lender may invoke any remedies permissed by this Security Instrument surface notice or demand on

WITNESS THE ITAND(S) AND SEALIS) OF THE UNDERSIGNED.

FRANK J. REGO 111 Bostower	-Borrowe	1)
-Dorrdwer	-Borrowa	)) !r
(Seal)	Sez 	() e :

[Sign Original Only]

MULTISTATE FIXEDIADJUSTABLE RATE NOTE - WSJ One-Year LIBOR Single Family - Fennie Mae MODIFIED INSTRUMENT Form 3528 6/01 Page 5 0/ 5

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EXHIBIT "B"

12-12020-mg Doc 7153-31 Filed 06/19/14 Entered 06/23/14 11:38:52

ARRIVED

organized

defendants

6MAC 601613576

INFINITY TITLE AGENCY, INC.

33 EAST MAIN STREET, UNIT 2 MUGRESTOWN, NJ 08057

SCANNED

85G 727-0818 - FAX 856-727-5173 (ON JUN 19 A 10 02

RECEIVED NOV 10 2008 зупіт үтімі ім AGENCY INC

After Recording Return To:

METROCITI MORTGAGE LLC 15301 VENTURA BLVD., STE#D300 SHERMAN OAKS, CALIFORNIA 93403 Loan Number: 21063843

This Instrument Prepared By:

\_\_\_ [Space Above This Line for Recording Date] -

## MORTGAGE

MIN: 100034200057200556

#### DEFINITIONS

Words used in moltiple sections of this document are defined below and other words are defined in Sections 3, 11, 13, 18, 20 and 21. Certain rules regarding the usage of words used in this document are also provided in Section 16.

(A) "Security Instrument" means this document, which is dated. MAY 31, 2006 with all Riders to this document.

(B) "Borrower" Is FRANK J. REED III AND CHRISTINA A. REED, HUSBAND AND WIFE

Borrower is the mortgagor under this Security Instrument.

(C) "MERS" is Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. MERS is a separate corporation that is acting solely as a nominee for Lender and Lender's successors and assigns. MERS is the mortgages under this Security Instrument. MERS is organized and existing under the laws of Delaware, and has an address and telephone number of P.O. Box 2026, Film, MI 48501-2026, tel. (888) 679-MERS.

(D) "Lender" is METROCITIES MORTGAGE, LLC

Lender is a LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY and existing under the laws of DELAWARE Lender's address is 15301 VENTURA BLVD., STE D300, SHERMAN OAKS, CALIFORNIA 91403

(E) "Note" means the promissory note signed by Borrower and dated MAY 31, 2006 The Moie states that Borrower owes Lender ONE MILLION AND 00/100

Dollars (U.S. \$ 1,000,000.00

Borrower has promised to pay this debt in regular Periodic Payments and to pay the debt in full not later than JUNE 1, 2036

(F) "Property" means the property that is described below under the heading "Transfer of Rights in the Property." (C) "Loan" means the debt evidenced by the Note, plus Interest, any prepayment charges and late charges due under

the Note, and all sums due under this Security Instrument, plus interest.

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(H) "Riders" means all Riders to this S to be executed by Bonower [check box	T	xeculed by Bortower. The following Riders a	re
Adjustable Rate Rides Balloon Rider L-4 Family Rider Condominium Rider	Planned Unit Develop Blweekly Payment Ric Second Home Ricer Other(s) Ispectfy INTEREST ONLY		
administrative roles and orders (that has opinions.  (j) "Community Association Dues. F that are imposed on Borrower or the Programization.  (k) "Electronic Funds Transfer" measor similar paper instrument, which is in magnetic tape so as to order, instruct, of includes, but is not limited to, point-of-telephone, whe transfers, and automated (L) "Escrow Herns" means those Herns (M) "Miscellancous Proceeds" means third party (other than Insurance proceed destruction of, the Property; (ii) condem lieu of condempallon; or liv) misreprese (M) "Morrigage Insurance" means that (Q) "Periodic Payment" means the replus (II) any amounts under Section 3 of (P) "RESPA" means the Real Estate Siegulation, Regulation & (24 C.F. R. Par successor legislition or regulation that "RESPA" refers to all requirements and even if the Loan does not qualify as a "IQ) "Successor in loterest of Borrower has assumed Borrower's obligation TRANSFER OF RIGHTS IN THE IT.  This Security Instrument secures to Lender of the Note; and (ii) the performance of Bo For these purposes, Borrower does hereb	re the effect of law) as well  res, and Assessments' mea operty by a condominium a  res any transfer of funds, othe litated through an electronic of authorize a financial institu- tale transfers, automated tell is clearinghouse transfers. Is that are described in Section any compensation, settlement is paid under the coverages mailton or other taking of all intailons of, or omissions as rance protecting Lender again gularly scheduled amount du this Security instrument, etitlement Procedures Act (1 in 3500), as they might be an governs the same subject is estrictions that are imposed deferably related mortgage to pur' means any party that bas is under the Note and/or this PROPERTY  : (1) the repayment of the Los trower's covenants and agreer y mortgage, grant and conver	oil, award of damages, or proceeds paid by a described in Section 5) for: (I) damage to, or any part of the Property; (III) conveyance to, the value and/or condition of the Propert inst the nonpayment of, or default on, the Loase for (I) principal and interest under the Not 12 U.S.C. 52601 et seq.) and its implementionended from time to time, or any additional emailer. As used in this Security Instrument in regard to a "federally related mortgage loas and under RESPA.	ess ar fit, or ry or in y- no in y- no in t- no in in t- in

SEE LEGAL DESCRIPTION ATTACHED HERETO AND MADE A PART HEREOF AS EXHIBIT "A". A.P.N.: 22-03803-00002

which currently has the address of

817 MATLACK DRIVE

Directl

NOORESTOWN

. New leasey

08057 [ Property Address ): JZIp Code

[Cliy]

TOGETHER WITH all the improvements now or hereafter erected on the property, and all easements, apputienances, and fixtures now or hereafter a part of the property. All replacements and additions shall also be covered by this Security Instrument. All of the foregoing is referred to in this Security Instrument as the "Property." Borrower understands and agrees that MERS holds only legal stile to the interests granted by Borrower in this Security Instrument, but, If necessary to comply with law or costom, MERS las nominee for Lender and Lender's successors and assigns) has the right: to exercise any or all of those interests, including, but not limited to, the right to foreclose and sell the Property; and to take any action required of Lender including, but not limited to, releasing and canceling this Security Instrument.

BORROWER COVENANTS that Borrower is lawfully selsed of the estate hereby conveyed and has the right to mortgage, grant and convey the Property and that the Property is unencumbered, except for encombrances of record. Borrower warrants and will defend generally the flue to the Property against all chains and demands, subject to any encumbrances of record.

THIS SECURITY INSTRUMENT combines uniform covenants for national use and non-uniform covenants with finited variations by jurisdiction to constitute a uniform security instrument covering real property.

## UNIFORM COVENANTS. Borrower and Lender covenant and agree as follows:

1. Payment of Principal, Interest, Escrow Items, Prepayment Charges, and Late Charges. Borrowershall pay when due the principal of, and interest on, the debt evidenced by the Note and any prepayment charges and late charges due under the Note. Borrower shall also pay funds for Escrow Berns pursuant to Section 3. Payments due under the Note and this Security Instrument shall be made in U.S. currency. However, if any check or other Instrument received by Lender as payment upder the Note or this Security Instrument Is retorned to Lender unpaid, Lender may require that any or all subsequent payments due under the Note and this Security Instrument be made in one or more of the following forms, as selected by Lender: (a) cash; (b) money order; (c) certified check, bank check, treasurer's check or cashler's check, provided any such check is drawn upon an institution whose deposits are insured by a federal agency, instrumentality, or entity; or (d) Electronic Funds Transfer.

Payments are deemed received by Lender when received at the location designated in the Note or at such other location as may be designated by Lender in accordance with the notice provisions in Section 15. Lender may return any payment or partial payment if the payment or partial payments are insufficient to bring the Loan current. Lender may accept any payment or partial payment tosufficient to bring the Loan current, without waiver of any rights hereunder or prejudice to its rights to refuse such payment or partial payments in the future. If Lender accepts such payments, it shall apply such payments at the time such payments are accepted. No offset or claim which Borrower might have now or in the future against Lender shall relieve Borrower from making payments due under the Note and this Security Instrument or performing the covenants and agreements secured by this Security Instrument.

2. Application of Payments or Proceeds. Except as otherwise described in this Section 2, all payments accepted and applied by Lender shall be applied in the following order of petority: (a) interest due under the Note; (b) principal due under the Note: (c) amounts due under Section 3. Such payments shall be applied to each Periodic

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Payment in the order in which it became due. Any remaining amounts shall be applied first to late charges, second to any other amounts due under this Security Instrument, and then to reduce the principal balance of the Note.

If Lender receives a payment from Borrower for a delinquent Periodic Payment which includes a sufficient amount to pay any late charge due, the payment may be applied to the delinquent payment and the late charge. If more than one Periodic Payment is outstanding, Lender may apply any payment received from Borrower to the repayment of the Periodic Payments II, and to the extent that, each payment can be paid in full. To the extent that any excess exists after the payment is applied to the full payment of one or more Periodic Payments, such excess may be applied to any late charges due. Voluntary prepayments shall be applied first to any prepayment charges and then as described in the Note.

Any application of payments, insurance proceeds, or Miscellaneous Proceeds to principal due under the Note shall not extend or postpone the due date, or change the amount, of the Periodic Payments.

3. Funds for Escrow Items. Borrower shall pay to Lender on the day Periodic Payments are due under the Note, until the Note is paid in full, a sum (the "Funds") to provide for payment of amounts due for: (a) taxes and assessments and other items which can attain priority over this Security Instrument as a lien or encombrance on the Property: (b) leasehold payments or ground tents on the Property. If any: (c) premiums for any and all insurance required by Lender under Section 5; and (d) Mortgage Insurance premiums, if any, or any sums payable by Borrower to Lender In Beu of the payment of Mortgage Insurance premiums in accordance with the provisions of Section 10. These items are called "Escrow Items." At origination or at any time during the term of the Load, Lender may require that Community Association Dues, Fees, and Assessments, If any, be excrowed by Borrower, and such dues, fees and assessments shall be an Escrow liem. Borrowet shall promptly furnish to Lender all notices of amounts to be gold under this Section. Borrower shall pay Lender the Funds for Escrow Items unless Lender waives Borrower's obligation to pay the Funds for any or all Escrow Items. Lender may waive Borrower's obligation to pay to Lender Funds for any or all Escrow liems at any time. Any such waiver may only be in writing. In the event of such waiver. Borrower shall pay directly, when and where payable, the amounts due for any Escrow Items for which payment of Funds has been waived by Lender and, if Lender requires, shall furnish to Lender receipts evidencing such payment within such time period as Lender may require. Borrower's obligation to make such payments and to provide receipts shall for all purposes be deemed to be a covenant and agreement contained in this Security Instrument, as the phrase "coverant and agreement" is used in Section 9. If Borrower is obligated to pay Escrow Items directly, pursuant to a walver, and Borrower fails to pay the amount due for an Escrow Item. Lender may exercise its rights under Section 9 and pay such amount and Borrower shall then be obligated under Section 9 to repay to Lender any such amount. Lender may revoke the waiver as to any or all Escrow liens at any time by a notice given in accordance with Section 15 and, upon such revocation, Borrower shall pay to Lender all Funds, and in such amounts, that are then required under this Section 3.

Lender may, at any time, collect and hold Funds in an amount (a) sufficient to permit Lender to apply the Funds at the time specified under RESPA, and (b) not to exceed the maximum amount a lender can require under RESPA. Lender shall estimate the amount of Funds due on the basis of current data and reasonable estimates of expenditutes of future Escrow liems or otherwise in accordance with Applicable Law.

The Funds shall be held in an institution whose deposits are insured by a federal agency, instrumentality, or entity (including Lender, if Lender is an institution whose deposits are so insured) or in any Federal Home Luan Bank. Lender shall apply the Funds to pay the Escrow liems no later than the time specified under RESPA. Lender shall not charge Borrower for holding and applying the Funds, annually analyzing the escrow account, or verifying the Escrow liems, unless Lender pays Borrower interest on the Funds and Applicable Law permits Lender to make such a charge. Unless an agreement is made in writing or Applicable Law sequites interest to be paid on the Funds. Lender shall not be required to pay Borrower any interest or earnings on the Funds. Borrower and Lender can agree in writing, however, that interest shall be paid on the Funds. Lender shall give to Borrower, without charge, an annual accounting of the Funds as required by RESPA.

If there is a surplus of Funds held in escrow, as defined under RESPA. Lender shall account to Borrower for the excess funds in accordance with RESPA. If there is a shortage of Funds held in escrow, as defined under RESPA. Lender shall notify Borrower as required by RESPA, and Borrower shall pay to Lender the amount necessary to make up the shortage in accordance with RESPA, but in no more than 12 monthly payments. If there is a deficiency of Funds held in escrow, as defined under RESPA, Lender shall notify Borrower as required by RESPA, and Borrower

NEW JERSEY-Single Family-Famile Maufreddie Met UNIFORM INSTRUMENT - MERS DocMegic @Statutes 800649 1367 Form 3031 01/01 Dage 4 of 13 shall pay to Lender the amount necessary to make up the defictency in accordance with RESPA, but in no more than 12 monthly payments.

Upon payment in full of all sums secused by this Security Instrument, Lender shall promptly refund to Borrower any Funds held by Lender.

4. Charges: Liens. Borrower shall pay all saxes, assessments, charges, fines, and impositions attributable to the Property which can attain galority over this Security Instrument, Jeasehold payments or ground rents on the Property, If any, and Community Association Dues, Fees, and Assessments, If any. To the extent that these items are Estrow Items. Borrower shall pay them in the manner provided in Section 3.

Bocrower shall gromptly discharge any then which has priority over this Security Instrument unless Borrower:

(a) agrees in writing to the payment of the obligation secured by the lien in a manner acceptable to Lender, but only so long as Borrower is performing such agreement; (b) contests the lien in good fallih by, or defends against enforcement of the lien in, legal proceedings which in Lender's opinion operate to prevent the enforcement of the lien while those proceedings are pending, but only until such proceedings are concluded; or (c) secures from the holder of the lien an agreement satisfactory to Lender subordinaling the lien to this Security Instrument. If Lender determines that any part of the Property is subject to a lien which can attain priority over this Security Instrument. Lender may give Bosrower a notice identifying the lien. Within 10 days of the date on which that notice is given. Bosrower shall satisfy the lien or take one or more of the actions set forth above in this Secution 4.

Lender may require Borrower to pay a one-time charge for a real estate tax verification and/or reporting service used by Lender in connection with this Loan.

5. Property Insurance. Borrower shall keep the Improvements now existing or hereafter erected on the Property insured against loss by fire, hazards included within the term "extended coverage," and any other hazards including, but not ilmited to, earthquakes and floods, for which Lender requires insurance. This insurance shall be maintained in the amounts lincluding deductible levels) and for the periods that Lender requires. What Lender sequires pursuant to the preceding sentences can change during the term of the Loan. The insurance carrier providing the insurance shall be chosen by Borrower subject to Lender's right to disapprove Borrower's choice, which right shall not be exercised unreasonably. Lender may require Borrower to pay, in connection with this Loan, either: {a} a one-time charge for flood zone determination and certification services and subsequent charges each time remapplags or similar charges occur which teasonably might affect such determination or certification. Borrower shall also be responsible for the payment of any fees imposed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency in connection with the review of any flood zone determination resulting from an objection by Borrower.

If Borrower falls to maintain any of the coverages described above, Lender may obtain insurance coverage, at Lender's option and Borrower's expense. Lender is under no obligation to purchase any particular type or amount of coverage. Therefore, such coverage shall cover Lender, but might or might not protect Borrower, Borrower's equity in the Property, or the contents of the Property, against any risk, hazard or liability and might provide greater or lesser coverage than was previously in effect. Borrower acknowledges that the cost of the insurance coverage so obtained might significantly exceed the cost of insurance alba Borrower could have obtained. Any amounts disbursed by Lender under this Section 5 shall become additional debt of Borrower secured by this Security Instrument. These amounts shall be a interest at the Note rate from the date of disbursement and shall be payable, with such interest, upon notice from Lender to Borrower requesting payment.

All insurance policies required by Lender and renewals of such policies shall be subject to Lender's right to disapprove such policies, shall include a standard mortgage clause, and shall name Lender as mortgagee and/or as an additional loss payee. Lender shall have the right to hold the policies and renewal certificates. If Lender requires, Dorrower shall promptly give in Lender all receipts of paid premiums and renewal notices. If Borrower obtains any form of insurance coverage, not otherwise required by Lender, for damage to, or destruction of, the Property, such policy shall include a standard mortgage clause and shall name Lender as mortgagee and/or as an additional loss payee.

In the event of loss, Borrower shall give prompt notice to the Insurance carrier and Lender. Lender may make proof of loss if not made promptly by Borrower. Unless Lender and Borrower otherwise agree in writing, any insurance proceeds, whether or not the underlying insurance was required by Lender, shall be applied to restoration or repair of the Property. If the restoration or repair is economically feasible and Lender's security is not lessened.

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During such repair and restoration period, Lender shall have the right to hold such insurance proceeds until Lender has had an opportunity to inspect such Property to ensure the work has been completed to Lender's satisfaction, provided that such inspection shall be undertaken promptly. Lender may disburse proceeds for the repairs and restoration in a single payment or in a series of progress payment as the work is completed. Unless an agreement is made in writing or Applicable haw requires interest to be paid on such insurance proceeds. Lender shall not be required to pay Borrower any interest or earnings on such proceeds. Fees for public adjusters, or other third parties, retained by Borrower shall not be paid out of the insurance proceeds and shall be the sole obligation of Borrower. If the restoration or repair is not economically feasible or Lender's security would be lessened, the insurance proceeds shall be applied to the sums secured by this Security Instrument, whether or not then due, with the excess, if any, paid to Borrower. Such insurance proceeds shall be applied in the order provided for in Section 2.

If Borrower abandons the Property, Lender may file, negotiate and settle any available insurance claim and related matters. If Borrower does not respond within 30 days to a notice from Lender that the insurance carrier has offered to settle a claim, then Lender may negotiate and settle the claim. The 30-day period will begin when the notice is given. In either event, or if Lender acquires the Property under Section 22 or otherwise. Borrower hereby assigns to Lender (a) Borrower's rights to any insurance proceeds in an amount not exceed the amounts unpation under the Note or this Security Instrument, and (b) any other of Borrower's rights (other than the right to any refund of unearned premiums paid by Borrower) under all insurance policies covering the Property. Insofar as such rights are applicable to the coverage of the Property. Lender may use the insurance proceeds either to repair or restore the Property or to pay amounts unpaid under the Note or this Security Instrument, whether or not then due.

- 6. Occupancy. Borrower shall occupy, establish, and use she Property as Borrower's principal residence within 60 days after the execution of this Security Instrument and shall continue to occupy the Property as Borrower's principal residence for at least one year after the date of occupancy, unless Lender otherwise agrees in writing, which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld, or unless extenuating circumstances exist which are beyond Borrower's control.
- 7. Preservation, Maintenance and Protection of the Property: Inspections. Borrower shall not destroy, damage or impair the Property, allow the Property to deteriorate or commit waste on the Property. Whether or not Borrower is residing in the Property. Borrower shall maintain the Property in order to prevent the Property from deteriorating or decreasing in value due to its condition. Unless it is determined pursuant to Section 5 that repair or restoration is not economically feasible. Borrower shall promptly repair the Property if damaged to avoid further deterioration or damage. If insurance or condemnation proceeds are paid in connection with damage to, or the taking of, the Property. Borrower shall be responsible for repairing or restoring the Property only if Lender has released proceeds for such purposes. Lender may disburse proceeds for the sepairs and restoration in a single payment or in a series of progress payments as the work is completed. If the insurance or condemnation proceeds are not sufficient to repair or restore the Property, Borrower is not relieved of Borrower's obligation for the completion of such repair or restore the Property.

Lender or its agent may make reasonable entries upon and inspections of the Property. If it has reasonable cause, Lender may inspect the interior of the improvements on the Property. Lender shall give Borrower notice at the time of or prior to such an interior inspection specifying such reasonable cause.

- 8. Borrower's Loan Application. Borrower shall be in default if, during the Loan application process. Borrower or any persons of entitles acting at the direction of Borrower or with Borrower's knowledge or consent gave materially false, misleading, of inaccurate information or statements to Lender (or failed to provide Lender with material information) in connection with the Loan. Material representations include, but are not limited to, representations concerning Borrower's occupancy of the Property as Horrower's principal residence.
- 9. Protection of Lender's Interest in the Property and Rights Under this Security Instrument. If (a) Borrower fails to perform the covenants and agreements contained in this Security Instrument. (b) there is a legal proceeding that might significantly affect Lender's Interest in the Property and/or rights under this Security Instrument (such as a proceeding in bankruptcy, probate, for condemnation or forfeiture, for enforcement of a lieu which may altain priority over this Security Instrument or to enforce laws or regulations), or (t) Borrower has abandoned the Property, then Lender may do and pay for whatever is reasonable or appropriate to protect Lender's Interest in the Property and rights under this Security Instrument, Including protecting and/or assessing the value of the Property, and securing and/or repairing the Property. Lender's actions can include, but are not limited to: (a) paying any sums

secured by a Hen which has priority over this Security Instrument; (b) appearing in court; and (c) paying reasonable automeys' fees to protect its Interest in the Property and/or rights under this Security Instrument, Including its secured position in a bankruptry proceeding. Securing the Property Includes, but is not limited to, entering the Property to make repairs, change locks, replace or board up doors and windows, drain water from pipes, eliminate building or other code violations or dangerous conditions, and bave utilities turned on or off. Although Lender may take action under this Section 9, Lender does not have to do so and is not under any duty or obligation to do so. It is agreed that Lender incurs no Bability for not taking any or all actions authorized under this Section 9.

Any amounts disbursed by Leoder under this Section 9 shall become additional debt of Borrower secured by this Security Instrument. These amounts shall bear interest as the Note rate from the date of disbursement and shall be payable, with such interest, upon notice from Leoder to Borrower requesting payment.

If this Security Instrument is on a leasehold, Burrower shall comply with all the provisions of the lease. If Borrower arquires fee title to the Property, the leasehold and the fee title shall not merge unless Lender agrees to the merger in writing.

10. Mortgage Insurance. If Lender required Mortgage Insurance as a condition of making the Loan, Borrower shall pay the premiums required to maintain the Mortgage Insurance in effect. If, for any reason, the Mortgage Insurance coverage required by Lender ceases to be available from the mortgage insurer that previously provided such insurance and Burrower was required to make separately designated payments toward the premiums for Morigage Insurance, Borrower shall pay the premiums required to obtain coverage substantially equivalent to the Mortgage Insurance previously in effect, at a cost substantially equivalent to the cost to Borrower of the Mortgage Insurance previously in effect, from an alternate morigage insurer selected by Lender. If substantially equivalent Mortgage insurance coverage is not available. Borrower shall continue to pay to Lender the amount of the separately designated payments that were due when the insurance coverage ceased to be in effect. Lender will accept, use and retain these payments as a non-refundable loss reserve in lieu of Morigage Insurance. Such loss reserve shall be non-refundable. not with standing the fact that the Loan is ultimately paid in full, and Lender shall not be required to pay Borsower any interest or earnings on such loss reserve. Lender can no longer require loss reserve payments if Morigage Insurance coverage (In the amount and for the period that Lender requires) provided by an insurer selected by Lender again becomes available, is obtained, and Lender requires separately designated payments toward the premiums for Morigage Insurance. If Lender regulred Morigage Insurance as a condition of making the Loan and Borrower was required to make separately designated payments loward the premiums for Morigage Insurance, Borrower shall pay the premiums regulated to maintain Morsgage insurance in effect, or to provide a non-refundable loss reserve, until Lender's requirement for Mortgage Insurance ends in accordance with any written agreement between Borrower and Lender providing for such termination or until termination is required by Applicable Law. Nothing in this Section 10 affects Borrower's obligation to pay interest at the rate provided in the Note.

Morigage Insurance relimburses Lender (or any entity that purchases the Note) for certain losses it may incut if Borrower does not repay the Loan as agreed. Borrower is not a party to the Morigage insurance.

Marigage Insurers evaluate their total risk on all such insurance in force from time to time, and may enter into agreements with other parties that share or modify their risk, or reduce losses. These agreements are on terms and conditions that are satisfactory to the mortgage insurer and the other party (or parties) to these agreements. These agreements may require the mortgage insurer to make payments using any source of funds that the mortgage insurer may have available (which may include funds obtained from Mortgage Insurance premiums).

As a result of these agreements, Lender, any purchaser of the Note, another insurer, any reinsurer, any other entity, or any affiliate of any of the foregoing, may receive (directly or indirectly) amounts that derive from (or might be characterized as) a portion of Borrower's payments for Mortgage Insurance, in exchange for sharing or modifying the mortgage insurer's risk, or reducing losses. If such agreement provides that an affiliate of Lender takes a share of the insurer's risk in exchange for a share of the premiums paid to the insurer, the arrangement is often termed "captive reinsurance." Further:

(a) Any such agreements will not affect the amounts that Borrower has agreed to pay for Mortgage Insurance, or any other terms of the Loan. Such agreements will not increase the amount Borrower will owe for Mortgage Imprance, and they will not entitle Borrower to any refund.

(b) Any such agreements will not affect the rights Borrower bas - if any - with respect to the Mortgage Insurance under the Homeowners Protection Act of 1998 or any other law. These rights may include the right 11. Assignment of Miscellaneous Proceeds; Forfeiture. All Miscellaneous Proceeds are hereby assigned to and shall be paid to Lender.

If the Property is damaged, such Miscellaneous Proceeds shall be applied to restoration or repair of the Property, if the restoration or repair is economically feasible and Lender's security is not lessened. During such repair and restoration period, Lender shall have the right to hold such Miscellaneous Proceeds until Lender has had an opportunity to inspect such Property to ensure the work has been completed to Lender's salisfaction, provided that such inspection shall be undertaken prompity. Lender may pay for the repairs and restoration in a single disbursement or in a series of progress payments as the work is completed. Unless an agreement is made in writing or Applicable Law requires interest to be paid on such Miscellaneous Proceeds. Lender shall not be required to pay Borrower any Interest or carnings on such Miscellaneous Proceeds. If the restoration or repair is not economically feasible or Lender's security would be lessened, the Miscellaneous Proceeds shall be applied to the sums secured by this Security Instrument, whether or not then due, with the excess, if any, paid to Borrower. Such Miscellaneous Proceeds shall be applied in the order provided for in Section 2.

In the event of a total taking, destruction, or loss in value of the Property, the Miscellaneous Proceeds shall be applied to the sums secured by this-Security Instrument, whether or not then due, with the excess, if any, paid to Borrower.

In the event of a partial taking, destruction, or loss to value of the Property in which the fair market value of the Property immediately before the partial taking, destruction, or loss in value is equal to or greater than the amount of the sums secured by this Security Instrument immediately before the partial taking, destruction, or loss in value, unless Borrower and Lender otherwise agree to writing, the sums secured by this Security Instrument shall be reduced by the amount of the Miscellaneous Proceeds multiplied by the following fraction: (a) the lotal amount of the sums secured immediately before the partial taking, destruction, or loss in value divided by (b) the fair market value of the Property immediately before the partial taking, destruction, or loss in value. Any balance shall be paid to Borrower.

In the event of a partial taking, destruction, or loss in value of the Property in which the fair market value of the Property immediately before the partial taking, destruction, or loss in value is less than the amount of the sums secured immediately before the partial taking, destruction, or loss in value, unless Borrower and Lender otherwise agree in writing, the Miscellaneous Proceeds shall be applied to the sums secured by this Security instrument whether or not the sums are then due.

If the Property is abandoned by Borrower, or if, after notice by Lender to Borrower that the Opposing Party (as defined in the next sentence) offers to make an award to settle a claim for damages. Borrower fails to respond to Lender within 30 days after the date the notice is given. Lender is authorized to collect and apply the Miscellaneous Proceeds either to restoration or repair of the Property or to the sums secured by this Security Instrument, whether or not then due. "Opposing Party" means the third party that owes Borrower Miscellaneous Proceeds or the party against whom Borrower has a right of action in regard to Miscellaneous Proceeds.

Bostower shall be in default if any action or proceeding, whether civil or criminal, is begun that, in Lender's judgment, could result in fortefive of the Property or other material impairment of Lender's interest in the Property or rights under this Security Instrument. Bostower can cure such a default and, if acceleration has occurred, reinstate as provided in Section 19, by causing the action or proceeding to be dismissed with a ruling that, in Lender's judgment, precludes forfeiture of the Property or other material impairment of Lender's interest in the Property or rights under this Security instrument. The proceeds of any award or claim for damages that are attributable to the impairment of Lender's interest in the Property are hereby assigned and shall be paid to Lender.

All Miscellaneous Proceeds that are not applied to restoration or repair of the Property shall be applied in the order provided for in Section 2.

12. Borrower Not Released; Forbearance By Lender Not a Walver. Extension of the time for payment or modification of amortization of the sums secured by this Security instrument granted by Lender to Borrower or any Successor in Interest of Borrower shall not operate to release the Hability of Borrower or any Successors in Interest of Borrower. Lender shall not be required to commence proceedings against any Successor in Interest of Borrower or to refuse to extend time for payment or otherwise modify amortization of the sums secured by this Security

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DocMagic Elfanoxa 200 549 1757 www.docmagic.com Instrument by reason of any demand made by the original Borrower or any Successors in Interest of Borrower. Any forbearance by Lender in exercising any right or remedy including, withour limitation, Lender's acceptance of payments from third persons, entitles or Successors in Interest of Borrower or in amounts less than the amount then due, shall not be a waiver of or preclude the exercise of any right or remedy.

13. Joint and Several Liability: Co-signers; Successors and Assigns Bound. Borrower covenants and agrees that Borrower's obligations and itability shall be joint and several. However, any Borrower who co-signs this Security Instrument but does not execute the Note (a "co-signer"): (a) is co-signing this Security Instrument only to mortgage, grant and convey the co-signer's interest in the Property under the terms of this Security Instrument; (b) is not personally obligated to pay the sums secured by this Security Instrument; and (c) agrees that Lender and any other Borrower can agree to extend, modify, forbeat or make any accommodations with regard to the terms of this Security Instrument or the Note without the co-signer's consent.

Subject to the provisions of Section 18, any Successor in Interest of Borrower who assumes Borrower's obligations under this Security Instrument in writing, and is approved by Lender, shall obtain all of Borrower's rights and benefits under this Security Instrument. Borrower shall not be released from Borrower's obligations and itability under this Security Instrument unless Lender agrees to such release in writing: The covenants and agreements of this Security Instrument shall bind (except as provided in Section 20) and benefit the successors and assigns of Lender.

14. Loan Charges. Lender may charge Borrower lees for services performed in connection with Borrower's default. For the purpose of protecting Lender's interest in the Property and rights under this Security Instrument, including, but not limited to, attorneys' fees, property inspection and valuation fees. In regard to any other fees, the absence of express authority to this Security instrument to charge a specific fee to Borrower shall not be construed as a prohibilition on the charging of such fee. Lender may not charge fees that are expressly prohibilied by this Security Instrument or by Applicable Law.

If the Loan is subject to a law which sets maximum loan charges, and that law is finally interpreted so that the interest or other loan charges collected or to be collected in connection with the Loan exceed the permitted limits, then: (a) any such loan charge shall be reduced by the amount necessary to reduce the charge to the permitted limit; and (b) any sums already collected from Borrower which exceeded permitted limits will be refunded to Borrower. Lender may choose to make this refund by reducing the principal owed under the Note or by making a direct payment to Borrower. If a refund reduces principal, the reduction will be treated as a partial prepayment without any prepayment charge (whether or not a prepayment charge is provided for under the Note). Borrower's acceptance of any such refund made by direct payment to Borrower will constitute a waters of any right of action Borrower inlight have arising out of such overcharge.

15. Notices. All notices given by Borrower or Lender in connection with this Security Instrument must be in writing. Any notice to Borrower in connection with this Security Instrument shall be deemed to have been given to Borrower when mailed by first class mall or when actually delivered to Borrower's notice address if sent by other means. Notice to any one Borrower shall constitute notice to all Borrowers unless Applicable Law expressly requires otherwise. The notice address shall be the Property Address unless Borrower has designated a substitute notice address by notice to Lender. Borrower shall promptly notify Lender of Borrower's change of address. If Lender specifies a procedure for reporting Borrower's change of address, then Borrower shall only report a change of address through that specified procedure. There may be only one designated notice address under this Security Instrument at any one time. Any notice to Lender shall be given by delivering it or by mailing it by first class mall to Lender's address stated berein unless Lender has designated another address by notice to Borrower. Any notice in connection with this Security Instrument shall not be deemed to have been given to Lender until actually received by Lender. If any notice required by this Security Instrument is also required under Applicable Law, the Applicable Law requirement will satisfy the corresponding requirement under this Security Instrument.

16. Governing Law; Severability; Rules of Construction. This Security Instrument shall be governed by federal law and the law of the jurisdiction in which the Property is located. All rights and obligations contained in this Security Instrument are subject to any requirements and limitations of Applicable Law. Applicable Law might explicitly or implicitly allow the parties to agree by contract or it might be silent, but such silence shall not be construed as a prohibition against agreement by contract. In the event that any provision or clause of this Security Instrument or the Note conflicts with Applicable Law, such conflict shall not affect other provisions of this Security Instrument or the Note which can be given effect without the conflicting provision.

NEW JERSEY-Single Family-Fannie Mae/Freddle Mac UNIFORM INSTRUMENT - MERS
Form 3031 01/01

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Poww. documents and 649-1367

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17. Borrower's Copy. Borrower shall be given one copy of the Note and of this Security Instrument. 18. Transfer of the Property or a Beneficial Interest in Borrower. As used in this Section 18, "Interest in the Property' means any legal or beneficial Interest in the Property, Including, but not limited to, those beneficial interests transferred in a bond for deed, contract for deed, installment sales contract or escrow agreement, the intent

of which is the transfer of title by Borrower at a future date to a purchaser.

If all or any part of the Property or any Interest in the Property is sold or transferred for if Borrower is not a natural person and a beneficial interest in Borrower is sold or transferred) without Lender's prior written consent. Lender may regulae immediate payment in foll of all sums secured by this Security Instrument. However, this option shall not be exercised by Lender II such exercise Is prohibited by Applicable Law.

If Lender exercises this option, Lender shall give Borrower notice of acceleration. The notice shall provide a period of not less than 30 days from the date the notice is given in accordance with Section 15 within which Borrower must pay all sums secured by this Security Instrument. If Borrower falls to pay these sums prior to the expiration of this period. Lender may invoke any remedies permitted by this Security instrument without further notice or demand

19. Borrower's Right to Reinstate After Acceleration. If Borrower meets certain conditions, Borrower shall have the right to have enforcement of this Security instrument discontinued at any time prior to the earliest of: [a] five days before sale of the Property pursuant to any power of sale contained in this Security Instrument: (b) such other period as Applicable Law might specify for the termination of Bortower's right to reinstate; or (c) entry of a Judgment enforcing this Security Instrument. Those conditions are that Borrower: (a) pays Lender all sums which then would be due under this Security Instrument and the Note as if no acceleration had occurred: (b) cures any default of any other covenants or agreements; (c) pays all expenses incurred in enforcing this Security Instrument, including. but not limited to, reasonable automeys' fees, property inspection and valuation fees, and other fees incurred for the purpose of protecting Lender's Interest in the Property and rights under this Security Instrument; and (d) takes such action as Lender may reasonably require to assure that Lender's interest in the Property and rights under this Security Instrument, and Borrower's obligation to pay the sums secured by this Security Instrument, shall continue vuchanged. Lender may require that Borrower pay such reinstalement soms and expenses to one or more of the following forms, as selected by Lender: (a) cash; (b) money order; (c) certified theck, bank theck, treasurer's theck or cashler's theck, provided any such obeck is drawn upon an Institution whose deposits are insured by a federal agency, instrumentality or entity; or (d) Electronic Funds Transfer. Upon reinstatement by Borrower, this Security Instrument and obligations secured hereby shall remain fully effective as if no acceleration had occurred. However, this right to reinstate shall not apply in the case of acceleration under Section 18.

20. Sale of Noir: Change of Loan Servicer; Notice of Grievance. The Note of a partial interest in the Note (together with this Security Instrument) can be sold one or more times without prior notice to Borrower. A sale might result In a change in the entity (known as the "Loan Servicer") that collects Periodic Payments due under the Note and this Security Instrument and performs other mortgage from servicing obligations under the Note, this Security instrument, and Applicable Law. There also might be one or more changes of the Loan Servicer unrelated to a sale of the Note. If there is a change of the Loan Servicer, Borrower will be given written notice of the change which will state the name and address of the new Loan Servicer, the address to which payments should be made and any other information RESPA requires in connection with a notice of transfer of servicing. If the Note is sold and thereafter the Loan is serviced by a Loan Services other than the purchases of the Note, the mortgage loan servicing obligations to Borrower will remain with the Loan Servicer or be transferred to a successor Loan Servicer and are not assumed

by the Note purchaser unless otherwise provided by the Note purchaser.

Neither Borrower nor Lender may commence, John, or he Joined to any Judicial action (as either an Individual liligant or the member of a class) that arises from the other party's actions pursuant to this Security Instrument or that alleges that the other party has breached any provision of, or any duly owed by reason of, this Security Instrument. until such Borrower ar Lender has notified the other party (with such nottre given in compliance with the requirements of Section 15) of such alleged breach and afforded the other party hereto a reasonable period after the giving of such notice to take conective action. If Applicable Law provides a time period which must clapse before certain action

NEW JERSEY-Single Family-Farmle Mae/Freddie Mac UNIFORM BISTRUMENT - MERS Form 3031-01/01 DOCMARIC EXCENSES 200 512-1362 Page 10 of 13

can be taken, that time period will be deemed to be reasonable for purposes of this paragraph. The notice of acceleration and opportunity to core given to Borrower pursuant to Section 22 and the notice of acceleration given to Borrower pursuant to Section 18 shall be deemed to satisfy the notice and opportunity to take corrective action provisions of this Section 20.

21. Hazardous Substances. As used in this Section 21: (a) "Hazardous Substances" are those substances defined as toxic or hazardous substances, pollutants, or wastes by Environmental Law and the following substances: gasoline, kerosene, other flammable or toxic petroleum products, toxic pesticides and herbicides, volatile solvents. materials containing asbestos or formaldehyde, and radioactive materials; (b) "Environmental Law" means federal laws and laws of the jurisdiction where the Property is located that criate to health, safety or environmental protection: (c) "Environmental Cleanup" includes any response action, remedial action, or ternoval action, as defined in Environmental Law; and (d) an "Environmental Condition" means a condition that can cause, contribute to, or otherwise trigger an Environmental Cleanup.

Borrower shall not cause or permit the presence, use, disposal, storage, or release of any Hazardous Substances. or threaten to release any Hazardous Substances, on or in the Property. Borrower shall not do, nor allow anyone else to do, anything affecting the Property (a) that is in violation of any Environmental Law, (b) which creates an Environmental Condition, or (c) which, due to the presence, use, or release of a Hazardous Substance, creates a condition that adversely affects the value of the Property. The preceding two sentences shall not apply to the presence, use, or storage on the Property of small quantities of Hazardous Substances that are generally recognized to be appropriate to normal residential uses and to maintenance of the Property (including, but not limited to. hazardous substances la consumer products).

Borrower shall promptly give Lender written notice of (a) any investigation, claim, demand, lawsuit or other action by any governmental or regulatory agency or private party involving the Property and any Hazardous Substance or Environmental Law of which Borrower has actual knowledge. (b) any Environmental Condition, including but not limited to, any spilling, leaking, discharge, release or threat of release of any Hazardous Substance, and (c) any condition caused by the presence, use or release of a Hazardous Substance which adversely affects the value of the Property. If Borrower learns, or is notified by any governmental or regulatory authority, or any private party, that any removal or other temediation of any Hazardous Substance affecting the Property is necessary. Borrower shall promptly take all necessary remedial actions in accordance with Environmental Law. Nothing herein shall create any abligation on Lender for an Environmental Cleanup.

### NON-UNIFORM COVENANTS. Borrower and Lender further covenant and agree as follows:

22. Acceleration: Remedies. Lender shall give notice to Borrower prior to acceleration following Borrower's breach of any covenant or agreement in this Security Instrument (but not prior to acceleration under Section 18 unless Applicable Law provides otherwise). The notice shall specify: (a) the default; (b) the action required to cure the default; (c) a date, not less than 30 days from the date the notice is given to Borrower, by which the default must be cured; (d) that fallure to cure the default on or before the date specified in the notice may result in acceleration of the sums secured by this Security Instrument, foreclosure by judicial proceeding and sale of the Property; (e) the Borrower's right to relistate after acceleration and the right to assert in the foreclosure proceeding the non-existence of a default or any other defense of Borrower to acceleration and foreclosure; and (f) any other disclosure required under the Fair Foreclosure Act, codified at §6 2A:50-53 et seq. of the New Jersey Statutes, or other Applicable Law. If the default is not cured on or before the date specified In the notice, Leader at its option may regulre immediate payment in full of all sums secured by this Security Instrument without further demand and may foreclose this Security Instrument by judicial proceeding. Lender shall be entitled to collect all expenses incurred in pursuing the remedies provided in this Section 22, including. but not limited to, alterneys' fees and costs of title evidence permitted by Rules of Court.

23. Release. Upon payment of all sums secured by this Security Instrument, Lender shall cancel this Security Instrument. Borrower shall pay any recordation costs. Lender may charge Borrower a fee for releasing this Security Instrument, but only if the fee is paid to a third party for services rendered and the charging of the fee is permitted under Applicable Law.

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24. No Claim of Credit for Taxes. Borrower will not make deduction from or claim credit on the principal or interest secured by this Security Instrument by reason of any governmental taxes, assessments or charges. Borrower will not claim any deduction from the taxable value of the Property by reason of this Security Instrument.

BY SIGNING BELOW. Borrower accepts and agrees to the terms and covenants contained in this Security Instrument and in any Rider executed by Borrower and recorded with it.

ERANK J. RE	ED III Bon	(Seal) CHR	MUMUSA JETINA A. REEO	BOITOWEE
	· Borr	(Sezl)		
		(Seal)		(Seal) -Borrawer

Signed, sealed and delivered in the presence of:



NEW JERSLY-Single Family-Fannie Mas/Freddie Mac UNIFORM INSTRUMENT - MERS Form 3031 03/01

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15paci	886w	This	Une for	Acknowledgment1	

State of New Jersey. County of CAMDEN

I CERTIFY that on CHRISTINA A. REED

FRANK J. REED III.

personally came before me and stated to my satisfaction that this person for if more than one, each person):

(a) was the maker of the anached Instrument; and

(b) executed this testrument as his or her own act.

Notary's Signature OFFICIAL SEAL STACIE A. JONES NOTARY PUBLIC - NEW JERSEY MY COMM. EXPIRES MARCH 22, 2011 Notary's printed or typed name

My commission expires:

NEW JERSEY-Single Family-Fannia Mae/Freddle Mac UNIFORM INSTRUMENT - MERS Form 3031 01/01 Page 13 of 13 DocMagic Elemnon 200419 1362 www.docmagic.com EXHIBIT "C"

EXHIBIT "D"

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CIVIL CASE	INFORMATION STATEMENT
	(CIS)

Use for initial Law Division - Civil Part pleadings (not motions) under Rule 4:5-1.

Pleading will be rejected for fitting, under Rule 1:5-6(c), if information above the black bar is not completed or if attorney's signature is not affixed.

	<del></del>
PAYMENT TYPE:	CK CG CA
CHG/CK NO.	
AMOUNT:	
OVERPAYMENT:	
BATCH NUMBER	

FOR USE BY CLERK'S OFFICE ONLY

								<del>_</del>	
I. ATTORNEY/PROSE NAME Jeffrey S. Watters, Esq.		2. TELEPHONE NUMBE (856) 552-1045				3. COUNTY OF VENUE Burlington			
4. FIRM NAME (If Applicable) LAW OFFICES OF JEFFREY S. WALTERS, LLC			5. DX	CKET NUMBER (WI	IS.	10ke) 26-10			
6. OFFICE ADDRESS 3000 Atrium Way Suite 2201 Mount Laurel, NJ 08054		7. DOCUMENT TYPE (e.g. Complaint, Answer with counterclaim) Answer							
				1. JURY DEMAND [X] Yes [] No					
9. NAME AND STATUS OF PARTY (e.g., John Doe, Plaintiff) Frank J. Reed III and Christina A. Reed, Plaintiffs			10. CAPTION Frank J. Reed III and Christina A. Reed v. GMAC Mortgage LLC, Residential Funding Corp. and John Does 1- 30, Vi/s/a						
11. CASE TYPE NUMBER (See reverse side for listing): 699			12. IS THIS A PROFESSIONAL MALPRACTICE CASE?YES _x_NO IF YOU HAVE CHECKED "YES," SEE NISA 2x:53x-27 AND APPLICABLE CASE LAW REGARDING YOUR OBLIGATION TO FILE AN AFFIDAVIT OF MERIT						
13. RELATED CASES PENDING	YES _x_NO			14. IF YES, LIST DOCKET NUMBERS: N/A					
15. DO YOU ANTICIPATE ADDING ANY PARTIES (wising out of same transaction or occurrence)YES _x_NO			Of seane	I6. NAME OF DEFENDANT'S PRIMARY INSURANCE COMPANY, IF KNOWN NODE_X_Unknown					
	THE INFORMATIO	N PROVID	DED BELOW CAN	NOT R	E ENTRODUCED IN	TO EVE	ENCE		
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CASE CHARACTERISTICS FOR PURPOSES OF DETERMINING IF COURENT, PAST OR RECURRENT RELATIONSHIP YES x NO			LOYER-EMPLOY		[] FRUENDMEIĞI [] BUSINESS	ROR	.0~	(coping) C	
18. DOES THE STATUTE GOVERN	VINO THIS CASE PR	OVIDE FO	OR PAYMENT OF I	EES A	THE LOSING PART	YE YE	<del></del>	#4500 #113	
19 USE THIS SPACE TO ALERT TO THAT MAY WARRANT INDIVIDU	HE COURT TO ANY	000/741	CASE CHARACTA			<del>''''</del>	            		
		<u> </u>							
20. DO YOU'OR YOUR CLIENT HA	VE ANY NEEDS UI	NDER THE	E AMERICANS WIT	H DISA 10N;	ABIUTIES ACT?			<del>-</del>	
21. WILL AN INTERPRETER SE N					JAGE7				
22. I certify that confidential personal identifiers have been reducted from documents now submitted to the court, and will be reducted from all documents submitted in the future in accordance with Rule 1:38-7(b).									

LAW OFFICES OF JEFFREY S. WALTERS, I.LC

3000 Atrium Way Suite 2201 Mount Laurel, NJ 08054

Telephone: (856) 552-1045 Telecopier: (856) 974-8859 Attorneys for Plaintiffs

v.

FRANK J. REED III and CHRISTINA A. REED,

SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY

LAW DIVISION

BURLINGTON COUNTY

Plaintiff.

Docket No: BUR-L-1626-10

CIVIL ACTION

GMAC MORTGAGE LLC. RESIDENTIAL FUNDING CORP. and JOHN DOES 1-30, Individually, Jointly, Severally and in the alternative,

COMPLAINT AND DEMAND FOR

JURY TRIAL

Defendants.

Plaintiffs, whose post office address is 971? Old Dell Trace, Rielfmond, VA 23238, by of Complaint against the Defendants say:

# **FIRST COUNT**

- At all times pertinent hereto, Defendant GMAC Mortgage LLC was a Limited 1. Liability Company duly organized and existing under and by virtue of the laws of one of the fifty states, and authorized to do business in the State of New Jersey, having an address of 1100 Virginia Drive, Fort Washington, Pennsylvania 19034.
- At all times pertinent hereto, Defendant Residential Funding Corp. was a corporation 2. duly organized and existing under and by virtue of the laws of one of the fifty states, and authorized to do business in the State of New Jersey, having an address of 1 Meridian Crossings Suite 100, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55423.

- 3. At all times pertinent hereto, Defendants John Doe 1-30 were individuals or entities who were employees, agents or subcontractors of the non-John Doe Defendants, or employees, agents or subcontractors of such agents or subcontractors, and who, as employees, agents or in any other capacity, were responsible for insuring that the non-John Doe Defendants were in compliance with their statutory duties, including but not limited to their duty to provide Plaintiffs with the "notice of intention" required by the Fair Foreclosure Act and to refrain from failing to provide Plaintiffs with the "notice of intention" required by the Fair Foreclosure Act.
- 4. At all times pertinent hereto, Defendant GMAC Mortgage LLC was the owner of a mortgage executed by Plaintiffs which encumbered real property owned by Plaintiffs, said property being known as 817 Matlack Drive, Moorestown, New Jersey 08057 ("the Property").
  - 5. At the time the causes of action stated herein arose, Plaintiffs resided at the Property.
- 6. On or about December 30, 2009, Defendant GMAC Mortgage LLC transferred ownership of said mortgage to Defendant Residential Funding Corp.
- 7. The mortgage which encumbered the Property was a "Residential Mortgage" as that term is defined in the Fair Foreclosure Act, NJSA 2A:50-53 et seq.
- 8. Under the Fair Foreclosure Act, Defendant GMAC Mortgage LLC was statutorily prohibited from commencing any foreclosure action to take possession of the Property until Defendant provided Plaintiffs with a "notice of intention" in form and content as provided in the Fair Foreclosure Act, and over 30 days in advance of commencing any foreclosure action.
- 9. On or about May 19, 2008, Defendant GMAC Mortgage LLC filed a Complaint for Foreclosure in the Superior Court of New Jersey, Chancery Division, General Equity Part, Docket No. F-19177-08, seeking to foreclose Plaintiffs' equity of redemption in the Property.

- 10. On or about May 28, 2008, Defendant GMAC Mortgage LLC, through its agents, caused a Lis Pendens to be recorded with the Burlington County Clerk.
- 11. Defendant GMAC Mortgage LLC failed to provide Plaintiffs with the "notice of intention" required by the Fair Foreclosure Act prior to filing its Complaint for Foreclosure on or about May 19, 2008.
- 12. At all times herein, Defendant GMAC Mortgage LLC had a statutory duty to refrain from filing a Complaint for Foreclosure against the Property and Plaintiffs until such time as Defendant properly served Plaintiffs with "notice of intention" required by the Fair Foreclosure Act.
- 13. At all times herein, Defendant GMAC Mortgage LLC had a duty to Plaintiffs to exercise care to refrain from violating Defendant's statutory duty as set forth above.
- 14. Defendant GMAC Mortgage LLC failed to exercise the required standard of care, and negligently and/or recklessly filed a Complaint for Foreclosure and recorded a Lis Pendens against the Property and Plaintiffs without first discharging its statutory duty to provide a "notice of intention" as required by the Fair Foreclosure Act.
- 15. At the time Defendant GMAC Mortgage LLC improperly and negligently filed its Complaint for Foreclosure and Lis Pendens, Plaintiffs were in the process of consummating financial transactions which, as a proximate result of Defendant's negligent and/or reckless conduct, were not consummated and which, but for Defendant's negligent and/or reckless conduct, would have been consummated.
- 16. At all relevant times herein, Defendant GMAC Mortgage LLC knew or should have known that a foreclosure filing and Lis Pendens recording would severely compromise Plaintiffs' financial dealings, including but not limited to Plaintiffs' ability to obtain credit in the future.

17. As a direct and proximate result of said Defendant's negligent and/or reckless conduct, Plaintiffs suffered damages and continue to suffer damages.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs demand judgment against Defendants for such sum of money as would reasonably and properly compensate Plaintiffs in accordance with the laws of the State of New Jersey, attorney's fees, costs, interest, and any other relief as the court may deem proper.

# SECOND COUNT

- The prior Count is referred to herein and made a part of this Count, but for the sake
  of brevity is not repeated in its entirety.
- 2. The financial transaction secured by the mortgage on the Property was a contractual agreement between Defendant GMAC Mortgage LLC and Plaintiffs.
- 3. The statutory obligation to provide the "notice of intention" required by the Fair Foreclosure Act was a term of the contractual agreement between Defendant GMAC Mortgage LLC and Plaintiffs.
- 4. In failing to provide Plaintiffs with the "notice of intention" required by the Fair Foreclosure Act prior to filing its Complaint for Foreclosure on or about May 19, 2008, Defendant GMAC Mortgage LLC breached the aforesaid contractual agreement.
- 5. As a direct and proximate result of said Defendant's breach of the contractual agreement, Plaintiffs suffered damages and continue to suffer damages.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs demand judgment against Defendants for such sum of money as would reasonably and properly compensate Plaintiffs in accordance with the laws of the State of New Jersey, attorney's fees, costs, interest, and any other relief as the court may deem proper.

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# THIRD COUNT

- 1. The prior Counts are referred to herein and made a part of this Count, but for the sake of brevity are not repeated in their entirety.
- Defendant Residential Funding Corp., as the owner of the mortgage as of December
   30, 2009, undertook liability for the actions of its predecessor-in-interest Defendant GMAC
   Mortgage LLC as described herein, or is otherwise liable for the actions thereof as described herein.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs demand judgment against Defendants for such sum of money as would reasonably and properly compensate Plaintiffs in accordance with the laws of the State of New Jersey, attorney's fees, costs, interest, and any other relief as the court may deem proper.

# FOURTH COUNT

- The prior Counts are referred to herein and made a part of this Count, but for the sake of brevity are not repeated in their entirety.
- At all times pertinent hereto, Defendants John Doe 1-30 were individuals or entities who, as employees, agents or in any other capacity, were responsible for insuring that the non-John Doe Defendants were in compliance with their statutory duties, including but not limited to their duty to provide Plaintiffs with the "notice of intention" required by the Fair Foreclosure Act and to refrain from failing to provide Plaintiffs with the "notice of intention" required by the Fair Foreclosure Act.
- 3. At all times pertinent hereto, Defendants John Doe 1-30 committed certain actions and/or failed to take certain actions in a careless, negligent and reckless manner and thereby caused harm and injuries to the Plaintiffs.

4. As a direct and proximate result of the aforesaid negligence, carelessness and recklessness of Defendants John Doe 1-30, and/or their employees and/or agents, Plaintiffs suffered damages and continue to suffer damages.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs demand judgment against Defendants for such sum of money as would reasonably and properly compensate Plaintiffs in accordance with the laws of the State of New Jersey, attorney's fees, costs, interest, and any other relief as the court may deem proper.

# FIFTH COUNT

- 1. The prior Counts are referred to herein and made a part of this Count, but for the sake of brevity are not repeated in their entirety.
- 2. But for the negligent and reckless conduct of Defendants in prematurely filing a Complaint for Foreclosure and recording a Lis Pendens, Plaintiffs would have consummated a refinance transaction with another lender which would have paid off Defendant's mortgage.
- 3. Defendants, by its/their negligent and reckless actions in prematurely filing a Complaint for Foreclosure and recording of a Lis Pendens, made it impossible for Plaintiffs to procure the funds to pay off Defendant's mortgage, and furthermore, destroyed Plaintiffs' credit and future ability to reinstate or pay off the mortgage loan as is permitted by the Fair Foreclosure Act.
- 4. As a result of Defendants' actions in negligently and recklessly destroying Plaintiffs' credit and rendering Plaintiffs without the ability to take advantage of Plaintiffs' statutory rights, Defendant GMAC Mortgage LLC, its successor-in-interest Defendant Residential Funding Corp. and any other successor-in-interest should be estopped from instituting another foreclosure action against Plaintiffs and the Property.

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WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs demand judgment against Defendants estopping them from instituting another foreclosure action against Plaintiffs and the Property, and for such sum of money as would reasonably and properly compensate Plaintiffs in accordance with the laws of the State of New Jersey, attorney's fees, costs, interest, and any other relief as the court may deem proper.

LAW OFFICES OF JEFFREY S. WALTERS, LLC

Attorney for Plaintiffs

DATED: May 7, 2010

JEFFREY S. WALTERS

# DESIGNATION OF TRIAL COUNSEL

Pursuant to New Jersey Court Rule 4:25-4. Jeffrey S. Walters, Esq. is designated as trial counsel for the Plaintiffs in the above matter.

#### JURY DEMAND

Plaintiffs demand trial by a jury on all of the triable issues of this complaint, pursuant to New Jersey Court Rules 1:8-2(b) and 4:35-1(a).

LAW OFFICES OF JEFFREY S. WALTERS, LLC

Attorneys for Plainfiffs

Dated: May 7, 2010

JEFREYS WALTERS

# **CERTIFICATION**

Pursuant to New Jersey Court Rule 4:5-1, the plaintiffs hereby certify that the matter in controversy is not the subject of any other action pending in any court and is likewise not the subject of any pending arbitration proceeding, to the best of plaintiff's knowledge or belief. The plaintiffs further certify that plaintiffs have no knowledge of any contemplated action or arbitration proceeding regarding the subject matter of this action and that, other than the parties set forth in this pleading, the plaintiffs are not aware of any other parties who should be joined in this action. In addition, plaintiffs recognize the continuing obligation of each party to file and serve on all parties and the court an amended certification if there is a change in the facts stated in this original certification.

LAW OFFICES OF JEFFREY S. WALTERS, LLC

Attorneys for Plaintiffs

Dated: May 7, 2010

By: JEFFREY S. WALTERS

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EXHIBIT "E"

FRANK REED April 26, 2011

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O. And where did you go to law school?

2 A. Widener.

O. What year did you start law school

4 at Widener?

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A. I think it was '07.

Q. How long did you attend law school?

7 A. Oh, it was just for one semester.

O. How come you left?

9 A. The career counselor painted a

16 bleak picture for lawyers. It was pretty

33 scary sounding.

O. Did you pay for law school?

13 A. Yes.

Q. Were you working while you attended

15 law school?

36 A. I don't think that semester I was.

O. Are you currently working?

18 A. No.

0. What was the last job that you held?

A. A position with Smith Barney.

2) O. And for what time period did you

22 hold that position?

A. Just a couple of months in '08.

Q. Why did you leave that position?

75 A. I was injured; and I'm disabled.

10

O. Tell me, what was the cause of the

2 disability?

3 A. I slipped and fell; embarrassing to

say, but it's true.

5 O. And when was that?

A. April '08.

7

O. Did you file a lawsuit with regard

8 To the slip and fall?

9 A. We recently have.

10 Q. Who is your attorney that's handling

11 the slip and fall?

12 A. McCrink. Matthew McCrink.

0. When you were working at Smith

14 Barney, were you a salaried or commissioned

15 employee?

36 A. Combination.

O. You indicated that while you were

18 at Smith Barney you only worked a couple

19 of months. Less than three?

A. Yes.

20

O. Prior to Smith Barney, where were

22 you working?

A. I was self-employed; had investments

in real estate and a couple of LLC's, plus

25 I bought and sold houses.

Q. How long were you self-employed for?

2 A. Since 1992.

Q. And from 1992 to sometime when you

joined Smith Barney, your business was

5 buying and selling real estate?

A. It was a combination of -- I had

7 restaurants in theme parks, buying, reno-

8 vating and selling houses, renting houses.

9 and then buying and renovating my own

16 home; would sell it every two years for the

11 nontax capital gain, you know, whenever you

12 improved the property that you fived in

13 for two years. So, it was a combination

14 of those things.

15 Q. You had mentioned that you owned a

16 couple of LLC's, is that correct?

A. Yes.

18 Q. What were the LLC's that you owned?

19 A. Ouick Serve Concepts LLC, Theme

20 Park Foods LLC. I also had royalty payments

2) from a patent at that time, too.

O. Through one of the LLC's?

23 A. No.

24 O. Any other LLC's?

25 A. Not at that time, no.

12

3.3

O. Any other corporations?

A. Not at that time, no.

3 O. When you say not at that time, what

do you mean not at that time? From the

5 time, during the time that you were sell-

6 employed.

A. And there was an original -- there

was a "C" Corp for awhile in the '90s

9 called Specialty Concessions.

Q. And when you bought and sold real

11 estate during this time that you were self-

12 employed, would you do that in your

13 individual name?

A. Yes.

15 O. Do you still own Quick Serve Con-

36 cepts?

A. It's not active.

O. When did it cease to be active?

19 A. 2007.

Q. Why was that?

21 A. Contract dispute over legal pro-

22 visions.

23 O. Contract dispute with whom?

A. Paramount/Kings Dominion.

25 O. Kings Dominion Amusement Park in



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O. How are you currently paying the taxes and carrying costs for all the five properties that you mentioned?

A. We are not currently doing that.

O. Do you have a mortgage on the 6 Strattord property?

7 A. Yes.

8 O. Tell me, are you current on that 9 mortgage?

A. Lam not. 30

O. And how past due are you on that 13

12 Strattord mortgage?

A. Ten months, I think.

O. How about the Sicklerville property, 3 4

does it have a mortgage on it? 15

16 A. Yes.

13

) 7 O. Are you past due on that?

18 A. May I clarify?

19 O. Please,

20 A. 318, 52 and 21 are on a blanket

21 mortgage. It's one mortgage. 22

O. Just so I'm clear on the recording,

the three properties, 318 Columbia, 52 23

24 Stone Hollow and the 21 Darien Drive are

25 all under one mortgage?

22

) A. Correct,

2 O. Who is that mortgage with?

A. TD Bank.

O. What was the original amount of 4

that mortgage?

6 A. 660.

7 O. And on that mortgage, you estimate

8 that you're about ten months behind, is

9 that correct?

10 A. Could be more than a year, but I'm

11 not sure. I don't know.

12 O. Has foreclosure started against any

13 of those properties?

A. Yes, it has.

O. Has loreclosure started against all

three of those mortgages?

A. It's one mortgage, though. I think

it's -- I don't know the legal, whether 18

you foreclose on one or you foreclose on

20 all. I don't know. It's called a blanket

21 mortgage.

14

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O. Fair enough. How about the property

in Virginia, 9717 Old Dell Trace, does 23

that have a mortgage on it? 24

A. That's my wife's. I don't know. I

mean it has a mortgage, I believe, but,

yes, it has a mortgage that I'm aware of.

Q. That property is only in her name?

23

24

A. I'm on the deed, but I'm not in-

volved with her mortgage.

Q. And do you have a mortgage on the

817 Matlack property?

8 A. Yes.

O. What is the principal amount of

that mortgage? 10

A. 950, I think.

O. Are you current on that mortgage? 12

13 A. No.

O. About how past due are you on that 14

15 mortgage?

A. I don't remember. I think the last

17 payment that was made is, maybe, April '08.

O. How come you haven't paid since

April of '08? 19

A. We sold the house to someone to,

Bret Cooper, who was supposed to close in, 21

I think, it was February or March of '08.

23 When he didn't, it had ramifications,

24 ripole effects.

O. What happened to that deal?

A. The house was under contract for

two million forty and there was a provision.

in the contract if it didn't appraise or,

no, if they couldn't get eighty percent of

a mortgage on it, then they would be able

to terminate or modify the mortgage, I 6

7 mean the contract.

Q. Is that what happened?

9 A. And there was a dispute over the

10 appraised value --

31 Q. A dispute?

12 A. -- that caused the mortgage

13 application to not be approved.

14 O. The buyer's appraiser didn't

15 appraise the property enough for them to

16 get the loan, is that my understanding?

A. Yes.

18 Q. Was there another appraisal done at

the time which contradicted the buyer's

20 appraiser?

A. Two. 21

Q. Who did those two other appraisals?

23 A. One was -- I can't remember.

24 O. If you don't recall, that's an

25 acceptable answer. I'm not looking for you



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1 A. That was Commerce Bank. I think it was Commerce at the time.

Q. When you previously mentioned

4 Commerce in 2008, is it now your testimony

that it was actually in 2009? 6

A. Different transactions.

Q. What was the transaction or the

8 reason you were applying to Commerce in 9 2009?

10 A. 2009, you said?

11 Q. Correct,

3

12

18

23

8

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16

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A. That was for refinancing on the

three rental properties. They were rentals 13 14 at the time.

15 Q. And were you able to refinance?

A. Oh, yes. May I take a break? 16

17 Q. Yes.

(Recess taken, 11:02 a.m.)

19 20

(Back on the record, 11:20

21 a.m.)

22 BY MR. FLEISCHER:

Q. Before we took a break, we were

talking about some past incidents where

25 you applied for credit or a loan. We had to obtain the financing.

to discuss 2008.

talking about Allied?

by Commerce Bank?

A. Yes, I think that was the name of

A. I understood that I was accepted.

never formally declined, but I told them I

think I'm going to use this other company.

I had done business with Commerce for many

Q. Back in 2006 when you were working

When you were discussing with

with Commerce and Allied Mortgage, would

you say that you had good credit or did you

Q. I'm sorry, in 2008, yes. I meant

them the refinance at that point in time.

did you consider that you had good credit

but I told them, I think, I'm going -- I

Q. Were you ever accepted or declined

talked about the 2009 Commerce refinancing.

2 but before, you mentioned a 2008 trans-

action with Commerce Bank. What was that 3

4 with respect to?

A. We were looking or started down the 5

path of a cashout re-fi on 817, a potential

7 cashout re-fi on 817.

Q. And what happened to that?

A. This other company, Allied Mortgage,

beat them in both readiness, I think, and 10

interest. I can't remember the interest

12 rate or something like that. 13

Q. How far along in the process did you

get with Commerce Bank in the 2008 re-

finance? 15

A. I believe they had mentioned, they

told me that they were going to do the

18 re-fi and they had already appraised the

house. They had done, I guess, whatever

20 work they do internally because they had

21 talked to me about the, that they were

going to be able to do it, but that was --

23 I believe that was -- they came after this

24 other company said I had different choices.

Q. When you say this other company,

A. I did not know. I thought I was 24 fine because I had been told I would be able

or you had issues with credit?

have issues with your credit?

A. That was in 2008.

1 Q. At the time you were looking to

refinance, were you past due on any of your

3 mortgages in 2008?

A. No, I don't think I was. I don't

5 believe I was at all. 6

Q. When you were applying for these.

for the refinance with Commerce and Allied.

what was your source of income?

9 A. That was rental income and cash on-10

hand and revenue from properties that we were selling, we had sold in the process

11

12 of selling and working on. 13

Q. Did you file a tax return for 2008?

14 A. Yes, I believe we did. Yes.

Q. And do you recall filing a tax 15

16 return for 2009?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. And did you file a tax return for

19 2010?

20

A. No.

Q. Are you on extension? 21

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. Have you ever had a judgment against

24 you?

25 A. I do now.



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Q. Who is that with?

- 2 A. I cannot identify. I have probably
- 3 several.
- O. How do you know you have judgments
- 5 against you?
- 6 A. I was served actions that I didn't
- 7 respond to. So, I assume, they have gone
- 8 to default.
- 9 Q. And when you say you were served
- 10 actions, was that in 2010?
- 11 A. 2010. Or was it late 2009?
- O. Were you ever past due on any of
- 13 your taxes?
- 14 A. Yes.
- O. What laxes were you past due on?
- A. Some rental property real estate
- 17 taxes.

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- 38 Q. And for what time period were you
- 19 past due?
- 20 A. I cannot remember.
- O. Were you past due in 2009?
- 22 A. I don't think in 2009. In 2010, I
- 23 know we are.
- Q. What happened to your application
- 25 with Allied Mortgage?

- you living in 817?
- 2 A. Yes.
- O. Did you ever get served with a
- 4 Foreclosure Complaint?
  - A. Yes.

7

11

16

- 6 Q. Do you recall when that was?
  - A. Spring of '08.
- O. How many months past due were you

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2011

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- 9 when you applied for the loan with Allied
- 10 Mortgage?
  - A. I don't know if I was at that
- 12 moment.
- 33 O. Did you ever get letters from GMAC
- 34 indicating that you were past due on your
- 15 mortgage?
  - A. I don't remember getting any.
- 17 Q. After you got served with the
- 18 Complaint, did you contact GMAC?
- A. I think I contacted a lawyer and, I
- 20 think, I called their lawyer, the one that
- 21 was on the Complaint and they told me to
- 22 contact a lawyer for myself, they can't
- 23 answer questions. They recommended that I
- 24 speak to an attorney.
- Q. When you spoke to that lawyer, did

38

- A. I was told that I had several or I
- was approved for several options and I
- needed to, you know, to look at them and
- analyze which ones I would take.
- Q. And did you look at the options?
- A. I don't remember if I actually got
- 7 To that point because the financing was
- 6 withdrawn.
- 9 Q. And why was that?
- 10 A. I was told because the 817 Matlack
- 11 had gone into foreclosure.
- 12 Q. Who told you that?
- A. It was the mortgage officer, the
- 14 loan officer.
- Q. The loan officer at where?
- 16 A. Allied.
- 17 Q. Do you remember his name?
- 18 A. Tardamosa.
- 19 Q. When he told you the property was
- in foreclosure, you did not know about it?
- A. I think he actually told me that
- 22 there was -- I think there was -- I don't
- 23 remember. I don't believe that I knew. I
- 24 think they knew before I knew.
- 25 Q. And at that period of time, were

- you tell him that you didn't think you were past due?
- 3 A. Which lawyer?
  - Q. The lawyer, I assume, on the
- 5 Foreclosure Complaint.
- 6 A. I don't remember. I was just in a
- 7 state of shock. I was like what is this?
- Why is this going on?
- 9 Q. Who pays the bills in your house,
- 10 you or your wite?
- 11 A. My wife had primarily been doing
- 12 that.

4

- Q. So, she would regularly be the
- 14 person responsible for paying the mortgage
- 15 payment?
- 16 A. Up to when our world lell apart,
- 17 yes.
- 18 Q. And al what time did your world fall
- 19 apart?
- A. That was in the spring of '08 when
- 21 the sale didn't go through and then the
- 22 refinance.
- O. Did your wife tell you that you were
- 24 past due on the mortgage?
- A. I don't know when we discussed it.



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motion to bar expert report Pg 46 of 75 FRANK REED April 26, 2011 49 A. Yes. Restate that question. ] 1 O. Did you bring a copy with you today? Q. You mentioned the property at 72 7 A. No. Broad Hollow. Was that the location where 3 (Exhibit D-3, a document you lived prior to purchasing Matlack? 4 filed May 10, 2010, indicating Mr. A. I had property in Virginia that we Reed resided at the Old Dell Trace stayed at for awhile, a summer property. 6 address in Richmond, Virginia, marked which you asked about, two properties in for identification.) Virginia. BY MR. FLEISCHER; O. Did you ever miss a credit card 9 O. I'm showing you what's been marked payment? ) ( 10 as Delendant's Exhibit 3 and ask that you A. Yes. 11 take a look at that. 11 12 O. Do you recall it you missed any 12 A. Okay. payments on your credit cards in 2008? 33 13 O. Do you recognize this? 14 A. Alter the foreclosure, probably, ì 4 A. I don't believe I physically recognize this document. But, I believe, 15 yes. 16 O. What about before the foreclosure? 16 Lunderstand what it is. 17 A. I don't recall. I don't believe so. 17 Q. Did you review this document before 18 O. Would that be something your wife 10 it was filed? ) 9 might know? 19 A. I remember reviewing something, but 20 A. She might. But, she was pretty I don't know if it's this exact document. 20 21 adamant about paying everything. 21 O. This document indicates that when 22 Q. At one point in time, did you have 22 it was filed, you resided at the Old Dell a state tax lien by the State of New 23 Trace address in Richmond, Virginia, is 24 Jersey for \$34,000? that correct? This was filed on May 10, 25 A. I did. 25 2010. 52 1 Q. What was that for? 3 A. Yes. 2 A. That was for some taxes for O. And when did you move out of that Specialty Concessions. 3 property? 4 Q. Was that ever paid off? A. It was this past fall. I think it 5 A. Yes. was November. O. And do you recall when that was paid 6 Q. When you moved out of the Dell Trace 7 off? property, where did you move to? 8 A. Not long afterwards. 8 A. 817 Mailack. 9 O. Not long afterwards after it was O. Were your kids enrolled in school 9 filed? 30 in Moorestown? 10 13 A. They are. 11 O. Did you ever own a property at 306 12 12 Q. What school are they enrolled in? Magnolia Avenue in New Jersey? 33 13 A. Is that an appropriate question? A. I did. 14 14 William Allen Middle School; 15 O. What happened to that property? 15 Upper Elementary School and Baker School. 16 A. I sold it. Sorry, just seems odd for you to ask that. 16 17 O. Did you ever work at Trump Plaza? 17 O. The Complaint indicates that when A. Yes. 16 the foreclosure action was filed, that you O. When did you work there? Prior to 19 19 were in the process of consummating a 20 2000, was it? 20 financial transaction. Which financial 21 A. Oh, 1991. 21 transaction was that? O. What was the last time you saw your 22 22 A. That was the pending re-fi.

23

24

Q. With Allied Mortgage?

A. I had one from Commerce that they

said that I was, had been approved for,



A. I think 1993, maybe '94. Something

23

24

credit report?

like that.

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1 A. I believe I made a half dozen calls to hard money lenders.

Q. Do you have any documents regarding those calls?

5 A. I think Jeff asked me to look for stuff like that, and I didn't ... 6

Q. What did you expect the proceeds

from the refinance with Allied to be? а

A. I thought it was, like, 550 or 600 or something like that.

Q. Do you have any documents that would show what you might have gotten out of the refinancing?

14 A. No. I think we might be able to reconstruct based on the appraisals and 15 how that was a percentage of what the 16

17 value was. 18 Q. What I'm really looking for is

19 documents from Allied or Commerce indicating 20 what they were willing to lend you and the amount of the proceeds that you would have been able to walk away with from that 22

23 closing?

A. I understood it to be 90 per cent. 25 I don't have, I did not discover any

1 It's my general understanding that currently I cannot go back to those

careers at all and others because of this 3

situation. I don't know if this is

something -- I can't pass judgment on the

legal veracity of something, but we entered

7 into an arrangement, contract with Mr.

Cooper/Mark Weaver, at a reduced price to

what we were then, the appraised value of

a quarter million dollars because we felt 10

11 . that we were under duress. Houses in our

neighborhood sold for over two million 12

dollars during the time we were entangled 13 14

with Mr. Cooper. In back of my house, one sold, the very house behind us, sold for 15

that. The realtor believed ours could not 16

because ours was not available. 17

Another issue that we

19 encountered not long ago, the lis pendens.

20 I understand, is still on record. I don't

21 know how those things work, but a realtor

from Edgar & Son had a customer shopping 22

in Moorestown for houses in the million 23

24 eight, million nine price range, where our

house was last year assessed at a million

documents in writing, looking for them at this time.

Q. We were just discussing that you believe you suffered damages as a result of not being able to fix up the Virginia property. Are you claiming any other

7 damages as a result of GMAC's foreclosure

8 action or the lis pendens that you suffered? A. Well, I would say, and I'm not sure 9

how to quantify a number for you as of yet, but if I had done the re-fi, we would have had cash in hand; we would have had cash in hand to live. Our bills would not have eventually gone into arrears. I assume my credit report, from all the commercials

15 on TV and what I understand, has been 16

17 harmed greatly by this. 3.8

or hired for those positions.

I know that, for example, when I worked in the casino's and when I worked for Smith Barney, my credit scores and my credit history had to be of a certain caliber, I cannot say what they are at the moment, but they had to be of a certain caliber or I would not be licensed

1 nine, and we had reduced it now. We had a

tax appeal and gotten it down to a million 2

seven. The buyer instructed the realtor, 3

based on the buyer's knowledge, I don't

know how he gets this knowledge, of a lis

pendens regarding our property, to offer

7 us a substantially reduced offer of a

8 million four fifty for the property. It

9 was originally a million four or a million

10 three-eighty. He then settled on a million

four-fifty. He said he wanted to buy the 11

property or he wanted to be in before 12

school, which was in August of '10 or July 13

14 of '10. We said okav.

15 The contract comes and the 16 guy wants to rent it for eighteen months 17 with a closing on or before eighteen months. 18 Why? According to what I heard from the

realtor, it's because he's expecting us to 19

get foreclosed on. That's why he offered 20

21 a lower price; and he then, at the last

22 minute, converted it to a rent, then

purchase later, hoping that we were going 23

24 to be foreclosed on before we can fulfill

25 our delivery of the property based on the



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EXHIBIT "F"

# EXHIBIT "G"

# PLAINTIFF'S EXPERT WITNESS REPORT OF EVAN HENDRICKS

l, Evan Hendricks, provide the following Expert Report in connection with the action entitled Frank J. Reed III v. GMAC Mortgage LLC, et al., Superior Court of New Jersey, Burlington County (Docket No. L-1526-10). Part 1 of this report addresses issues that are specific to this case, including a context and history that robustly put Defendants on notice of the problems in this case and why Defendants should have prevented them. Part 2 includes my qualifications, list of prior cases in which I have testified, my fee, and more general opinions, such as the nature and purpose of credit scores and credit reports, and damages. It is likely that Defendants will disclose additional evidence after I have completed this expert report. If appropriate, and if justified by the production of additional evidence in discovery, I reserve the right to supplement this report at a future date.

# **Summary of Opinions**

- This case is the result of Defendant GMAC ("GMAC") abusing both the
  foreclosure process and the credit reporting system to block the ability of Plaintiff
  Frank Reed ("Plaintiff" or "Mr. Reed") to avoid foreclosure by ruining his credit.
- GMAC abused the foreclosure process by failing to adhere to the all-important notice provisions in the Fair Foreclosure Act. It abused the credit reporting system by filing the foreclosure action, and instructing the credit reporting agencies (CRAs) to portray Mr. Reed as being in foreclosure, when the foreclosure action should never have been filed prior to providing a Notice of Intent to Mr. Reed.
- This set off a highly damaging chain reaction. The foreclosure on Mr. Reed's credit stood out as a "scarlet letter" and scuttled his soon-to-be-completed efforts to refinance his mortgage and avoid foreclosure. That in turn further worsened Mr. Reed's credit, making it impossible for him to obtain any meaningful credit, either to avoid foreclosure, extract equity from his home, or to continue Mr. Reed's real estate business.
- All of this caused Mr. Reed both economic and non-economic damages. The
  economic damages stemmed from the ruined credit that ended Mr. Reed's ability
  to continue his real estate business.
- Mr. Reed's economic damages include, but likely are not limited to, the losses from being unable to refinance his home mortgage, the losses stemming from his inability to sell his Moorestown property at the peak of the market, the losses and foreseeable losses stemming from Mr. Reed's inability to continue his real estate business and the loss of time and opportunity stemming from dealing with the unfair and incomplete/inaccurate credit reporting.

- The non-economic damages related to the stress, humiliation, mental anguish and frustration stemming from being blindsided by GMAC's non-compliant foreclosure, from watching his credit being ruined and knowing the consequences for his and his family's economic plans and aspirations, and from the consequential loss of reasonable control over such crucial personal information, making him a victim of chronic credit report inaccuracy.
- Given that this occurred during a period in which wrongful foreclosures were a
  growing, foreseeable problem, and that the damages stemming from wrongful
  foreclosures were potentially devastating, GMAC's actions in regard to Mr. Reed
  were reckless.
- From 1996 to the present, GMAC was put on notice by a variety of events of the importance of credit report accuracy.
- It is well known in our field that victims of chronic credit report inaccuracy endure a common pattern of harms. The damages suffered by Mr. Reed was consistent with those experienced by other victims. As mentioned above, Mr. Reed suffered damages that were peculiar to his situation.

# Impact of 'Foreclosure' On Creditworthiness

It's logical that a foreclosure is devastating to a consumer's creditworthiness. After all, a home mortgage is often the most important credit obligation of an American consumer, and a foreclosure typically means that the consumer has defaulted on the mortgage to the point that the bank has to foreclose on the home and take possession of it.

Most lenders, like TD Bank in the case of Mr. Reed, have a policy of not approving (or even reviewing) credit applications from consumers who are in foreclosure. In addition, most lenders run automated scans of applicants' credit reports for key derogatory terms, and "foreclosure" is one of them. This is because underwriters typically will not give final approval to a credit application for someone who is in foreclosure.

The State of New Jersey has recognized foreclosure's devastating impact on the consumer through enactment of the Fair Foreclosure Act, which seeks to ensure that proper and timely notice is given to potential targets of foreclosure so they will have adequate opportunity to make things right and avoid losing their home. ("Institution of foreclosure is traumatic to the debtor-mortgagor and creates a permanent court record which can be injurious to the debtor's credit. The notice of intention is meant to give the debtor a chance to prevent acceleration and institution of foreclosure." See Myron C. Weinstein, "Law of Mortgages: Chapter 24: New Jersey's Fair Foreclosure Act. B. Notice of Intention." New Jersey Practice Series TM.)

GMAC knew or should have known all of this. GMAC's rushed and allegedly improper foreclosure action against Mr. Reed came during a period in which GMAC

allegedly was falsifying documents in order to foreclose on other properties. (See Paul Kiel, "Internal Doc Reveals GMAC Filed False Document in Bid to Foreclose," ProPublica, July 27, 2011. (<a href="www.foreclosuredefenseblog.com/2011/08/firm-commentary-readers-should.html">www.foreclosuredefenseblog.com/2011/08/firm-commentary-readers-should.html</a>)

Thus, GMAC's reckless and highly damaging improper foreclosure against Mr. Reed coincided with other reckless and presumably highly damaging improper foreclosures against other Americans, and appeared to be part of a pattern and practice of a declining mortgage lender desperate to salvage itself by trampling on its customers' rights.

# GMAC's Foreclosure Doomed Mr. Reed's Re-finance, His Path To Normalcy, & Doomed Him To 'Credit Jail'

Mr. Reed had a long-standing relationship with the TD Bank President, who had been involved with numerous loans over a period of many years as part of Mr. Reed's ongoing business of buying, improving and selling real estate. In the Spring of 2008, the TD Bank President had visited one of Mr. Reed's properties and had ordered and received an appraisal.

The approval of this loan, and the consummation of this transaction, would have enabled Mr. Reed to catch up on his debts, including the GMAC mortgage, and extract equity from his home in order to conduct his business ventures.

That is when the key moment occurred. GMAC improperly moved to foreclose on Mr. Reed's home, figuratively hanging a "scarlet letter" around his creditworthiness, and scuttling the ability to consummate a loan transaction.

This in turn set off a horrific chain reaction that resulted in Mr. Reed, figuratively, being thrown into "credit jail." Unable to complete the planned transaction and obtain the necessary funds to become current on his credit obligations (and to continue his ongoing real estate endeavors), Mr. Reed suddenly could not meet his other credit obligations and quickly fell behind. Within months, his credit report was marred with a plethora of derogatory credit accounts which further doomed any hope he had of restoring his creditworthiness and returning to a normal economic life. This chain reaction was caused directly by GMAC's improper foreclosure, and it devastated Mr. Reed's life.

This caused profound economic and non-economic damages to Mr. Reed. His other expert will opine on his economic damages.

According to one of Mr. Reed's credit reports, a quick review indicated that eight accounts where rendered derogatory in 2008 alone.

Mr. Reed's non-economic damages relate to the stress, humiliation, mental anguish and frustration stemming from being blindsided by GMAC's non-compliant foreclosure, from watching his credit being ruined and knowing the consequences for his and his family's economic plans and aspirations, and from the consequential loss of reasonable control over such crucial personal, financial information, making him the victim of chronic credit report inaccuracy.

I have served as an expert in several cases in which consumers/plaintiffs have been victims of chronic credit report inaccuracy. In these cases, the juries recognized the profound damage to the plaintiffs. In some of the earlier cases in which I was involved, the minimum damage award was \$200,000. In more recent cases, the jury awards for actual damages have been closer to \$350,000.<sup>2</sup>

Because the chronic inaccuracy caused by GMAC cut right to the heart of Mr. Reed's ability to continue earning a living, it heightened the stress, humiliation, mental anguish and frustration he experienced from being blindsided by GMAC's non-compliant foreclosure, and from watching his credit being ruined.

Suzanne Sloane vs. Equifax Information Services, LLC, et al., U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia (Alexandria Div.), Case No. CIV 1:05 cv 1272. \$351,000 - \$106,000 in economic damages and \$245,000 in mental anguish, humiliation, and emotional distress damages. (August 2006)

Angela Williams v. Equifax Information Solutions, LLC: Circuit Ct. or 9<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit, Orange County, Florida – No. 48-2003-CA-9035-O; jury verdict, Nov. 30, 2007; (\$219,000 in actual damages and \$2.7 million in punitive damages).

Rebecca L. Valentine v. Equifax Information Services, LLC: U.S. District Court for the District of Oregon – No. 05-cv-0801; jury verdict Oct. 12, 2007; (\$200,000 in actual damages.)

Nicole M. Robinson v. Equifax Information Services. LLC: USDC-Eastern Dist. Of Virginia – No. 06-CV-1336; jury award Aug. 17, 2007; (\$200,000 in actual damages.)

Sandra Cortez vs. Trans Union, LLC., U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania: No. 2:05-cv-05684-JF. (jury verdict April 26, 2007; \$50,000 actual damages, \$750,000 in punitive damages.)

Matthew Kirkpatrick v. Equifax, U.S. District Court for District of Oregon, (Slip. Op. CV-02-1197-MO; 2005 \$210,000 in actual damages.

Thomas v. Trans Union, U.S. District Court for the District of Oregon. \$5million punitive, \$300,000 actual damages for emotional distress. (2001)

Soghomonian v. TransUnion, (U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California, 2004) \$330,000 actual damages and \$660,000 punitive damages.

Cortez v. TransUnion, LLC, U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, Case Number: 2:05-cv-5684 (April 2007); \$50,000 actual damages, and \$750,000.00 in punitive damages.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Eric Robert Drew vs. Equifax Information Services, LLC, et al., U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California, Case No. CV 07-00726-SI. \$700,000 in punitive damages, \$315,000 in emotional distress damages, and \$6,326.60 in economic damages, for a total of \$1,021,326.60; July 20, 2010

Therefore, in accordance with my experience as an expert in the field of chronic credit report inaccuracy, I would value his non-economic damages, at a minimum, at \$350,000.<sup>3</sup>

# **Underlying Incentive For Furnishing**

Many people do not realize that creditors' furnishing of their customers' data to credit reporting agencies (CRAs) is entirely voluntary. A fundamental incentive for large creditors such as GMAC in this case is that credit reporting is a cost-effective means of enhancing debt collection.

GMAC is keenly aware that credit reporting is a "powerful tool designed, in part, to wrench compliance with payment terms." (Rivera v. Bank One, 145 F.R.D. 64, 623 (D.P.R. 1993)). Creditors' collection letters and debt-collecting operators often advise customer-debtors that if they don't pay their debt it will result in highly derogatory data being entered on that customer's credit report which may remain for up to seven years. Creditors' collection letters often advise customer-debtors that, "Any potential employer, mortgage company, car dealership or creditor is likely to see this remark. Such a condition is far more damaging than the delinquent status you now maintain."

When a consumer applies for a mortgage, or other major form of credit, the mortgage or credit often is not granted until all outstanding unpaid debts listed on the credit report are resolved. Thus, a creditor that is owed money, or that still hopes to collect money whether or not it is actually owed by the consumer, enhances its ability to garner payment by reporting the debt to that consumer's credit report. This practice is highly problematic and damaging to the consumer when the consumer in fact does not actually owe the amount being reported to her credit report. However, it is conceivable that such practices would cause consumers, particularly those who did not know their rights, to consider paying off debts that they did not owe in order to remove serious derogatory data from their credit reports.

As I wrote in my book, "Credit Scores and Credit Reports,"

... Creditors view credit reporting as an arm of debt collection – a sort of last resort that will catch up with non-paying consumers sooner or later. This practice "crosses the line" when creditors and collectors threaten to report debts – or actually report debts – that they know or should know are not the responsibility of the consumer. [Page 31 – Second Edition]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> I am sometimes reluctant to place a dollar value on non-economic damages for fear of "low-balling" what a future jury would decide. But I believe this initial estimate provides a reasonable basis for understanding Mr. Reed's minimum non-economic damages.

# Potential Areas of Testimony: Damages Known & Common To Victims of Chronic Credit Report Inaccuracy

It is important that the trier of fact understands that victims of chronic credit report inaccuracy often experience a series of several known and common types of negative impacts.

# Some Categories of Typical Negative Impacts of ID Theft & Chronic Inaccuracy

- (1) Inaccurately described as not creditworthy and/or less creditworthy to third parties
- (2) Improperly denied credit because of inaccurate data, or only able to obtain credit at less favorable rates
- (3) Expended time and energy to correct errors not of one's making; in addition to loss of time and energy, loss of opportunity
- (4) Wrongfully received debt collection calls
- (5) Chilled from applying for credit
- (6) Sleeplessness, physical symptoms
- (7) Sense of helplessness, loss of control over personal data
- (8) The emotional distress stemming from, and associated, with all of the above

The following factors could be used to gauge the severity of damage within each category.

# Key Factors To Consider When Assessing Severity of Negative Impact

The nature and substance of the category of damage Time & energy to solve the immediate problem The expectation that the problem was solved The number of recurrences

The period of time over which the problem persist

# Mr. Reed's Damages Were Consistent with Other Victims of Chronic Credit Report Inaccuracy

Mr. Reed's damages were consistent with other victims of chronic credit report inaccuracy. His experiences touched on many of the eight categories cited above. In addition to the categories above, it is important for the trier of fact to understand that it can be very stressful not knowing everyone who may have associated you with highly derogatory credit data. Moreover, in my opinion, it can be difficult to maintain constructive personal relationships under stress.<sup>4</sup> It can be difficult to perform adequately at one's job.

# Defendant Knew or Should Have Known It Actions Would Have Negative Impact

The history of credit reporting cited below, which includes years of Congressional testimony and legislative actions, Federal and State enforcement actions, abundant media coverage and targeted books, such as mine, should have made it abundantly clear to GMAC

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> In fact, the insurance industry says that stress, stemming from financial problems, can cause auto accidents, and therefore justifying its use of credit reports in setting insurance rates.

that failing to prevent Mr. Reed from becoming a victim of chronic inaccuracy would have a highly negative impact on him.

#### Context

Context is extremely important in this type of case, in part because credit reporting, along with inaccuracies stemming from identity theft, is a long-standing and well-known problem. An important role of experts in FCRA cases is to help the trier of fact understand the relevant context.<sup>5</sup> Accordingly, I provide a brief history. An important theme emerging from this history is that a furnisher like GMAC was consistently provided notice in one form or another of the importance of ensuring the accuracy of information it reports and promptly restoring accuracy when the consumer disputes inaccuracies. This history also notified GMAC of the potential damage to consumers of both reporting erroneous information and then failing to correct it.

## **History of Significant Inaccuracy Problems**

It is essential that the trier of fact understand that there is a long-standing problem of significant inaccuracy rates in credit reporting data. Since 1990, several non-industry studies have concluded that credit report inaccuracy is a problem of significant proportions that can have a major negative impact on the victims of inaccuracy, and that can potentially be detrimental to the credit system as well. This history is covered in Chapter 10 of my book, "Credit Scores and

Consumers Union, "What Are They Saying About Me? The Results of A review of 161 Credit Reports From The Three Major Credit Bureaus, April 29, 1991 — 48% contained "serious errors," defined as meaning those that could, or did, cause the denial of credit, employment or insurance.

U.S. Public Interest Research Group (US PIRG), "Nightmare On Credit Street (Or How The Credit Burcau Ruined My Life): Case Studies Documenting Consumer Complaints and Recommendation For Amending the FCRA," June 12, 1990

U.S. Public Interest Research Group (US PIRG), "Don't Call; Don't Write; We Don't Care." 1991 -- Review of 156 consumer report complaints on file at the FTC revealed that the average duration of complaints against a CRA was 22.5 weeks, or almost 6 months

U.S. Public Interest Research Group (US PIRG), "Public Enemy #1 At The FTC" October 1993, Based upon a Freedom of Information Act request, the 1993 report found that between 1990-93, problems with credit bureaus was the leading cause of complaints to the FTC (30,901, 20.6%). The 1993 PIRG

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> <u>Kirkpatrick v. Equifax</u>, U.S. District Court for District of Oregon, (Slip. Op. CV-02-1197-MO; In rejecting Defendant Equifax's motion to exclude Mr. Hendricks' testimony, Judge Michael W. Mosman, ruling from the bench, stated: "As a general statement, what I'm allowing and the reason I'm allowing it is testimony that puts the particular actions of the defendant in particular here in context, in the context of the nationwide problem of identity theft, in the context of the congressional reaction to that and other issues in the credit-reporting industry, when he can by virtue of his study and his prior testimony, both in court and to Congress, make comparisons, then that's something that's helpful to the jury." (January 18, 2005; Transcript available upon request.)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Williams, James (CIS), "Credit File Errors, A Report," August 7, 1989 -- The first survey of 1,500 consumer reports and found serious error rate of 42% to 47%;

Credit Reports." As that Chapter notes, in the early 1990s, problems with inaccuracy and "mixed files," CRA non-responsiveness and inadequate reinvestigations became the cause of complaints to the FTC.

Of particular note was the 1993 study done by the U.S. Public Interest Research Group (US PIRG), "Public Enemy #1 At The FTC." Based upon a Freedom of Information Act request, the 1993 report found that between 1990-93, problems with credit bureaus was the leading cause of complaints to the FTC (30,901, 20.6%). The 1993 PIRG found that 44% of complaints concerned mixed files, and that among those, 64% involved the mixing of data with total strangers.

These and other complaints prompted the FCRA's oversight authorities – the FTC and State Attorneys General – to launch investigations and take enforcement actions. These actions resulted in a series of separate consent decrees involving Equifax, Experian and Trans Union in which each pledged to do a better job of maintaining accuracy, avoiding mixed files and the reappearance of previously deleted data, being more responsive and conducting adequate reinvestigations.

# History: Increased Attention on Role of Furnisher

This Consent Agreements are also relevant because (1) they created widespread publicity about the problems of credit report inaccuracy, (2) they articulated (an agreed upon) higher and more specific standard of care to ensure accuracy and fairness, and (3) they formed the foundation for the 1996 Amendments to the FCRA. However, Congress knew that to ensure accuracy, it needed to go beyond the Consent Agreements by placing duties on furnishers to report information accurately.

The April 1994 House Banking Committee Report on the proposed amendments explained why, despite the consent agreements, and subsequent industry guidelines, legislation was necessary: "Moreover, because the industry guidelines are simply voluntary, they are unenforceable and may be changed or revoked at any time. Many of the provisions in the

found that 44% of complaints concerned mixed files, and that among those, 64% involved the mixing of data with total strangers.

U.S. Public Interest Research Group (US PIRG), "Mistakes Do Happen: Credit Report Errors Mean Consumers Lose," March 1998

"Credit Reports: How Do Potential Lenders See You?" ConsumerReports.org, July 2000.

Consumer Federation of America and National Credit Reporting Association, Credit Score Accuracy and Implications for Consumers, December 2002.

Robert Avery, Paul Calem, Glenn Canner, and Raphael Bostic, "An Overview of Consumer Data and Credit Reporting," Federal Reserve Bulletin, February 2003.

U.S. Public Interest Research Group (US PIRG), "Mistakes Do Happen: A Look at Credit Report Errors," June 2004

consent agreements expire after a short period of time, are not enforceable by consumers, and do not apply in every state. Additionally, these agreements do not impose any reinvestigation obligations on furnishers of information or on credit bureaus other than the three largest. Because of these limitations, federal legislation is necessary to improve accuracy-related protections for consumers. Consequently, the bill contains new reinvestigation procedures which are intended to cut down on the number of errors in consumer reports and to reduce the delay in correcting those errors." [Emphasis Added]

Importantly, the Consent Agreements' language on preventing reinsertion was incorporated and expanded upon in the 1996 Amendments to the FCRA. Under Sect. 1681 (a)(5)(B), information cannot be reinserted unless it is "certified" as complete and accurate by the furnisher. Moreover, a CRA, five business days prior to any reinsertion, must notify the consumer, and also provide the name and address of the furnisher and inform him or her of his right to add a statement.

Despite these Consent Decrees, the problems of mixed files, inadequate reinvestigations and reappearance did not go away. Throughout the early 1990s, Congress held a series of hearings in which numerous consumers and consumer advocates described problems with inaccuracy, mixed files, CRA non-responsiveness, and inadequate reinvestigations. This resulted in the 1996 legislative amendments to the FCRA.

I cite this brief history because it makes clear that for many years, a furnisher like GMAC has been on notice from Congress, the FTC, State AGs, the media and the public that it is important to ensure accuracy, and to reasonably investigate consumer disputes, and that it can be highly damaging when inaccurate information is not removed.

#### Part 2

# Potential Areas of Testimony: General Issues, Context

- A. The Nature and Purpose of Credit Scores
- B. The Nature and Purpose of Credit Reports

### Nature & Purpose of Credit Scores

It is possible that the trier of fact is not intimately familiar with either the credit reporting or credit scoring systems. If this is the case, I can provide expert testimony on the nature of both systems, how to read and understand credit reports and how to dispute errors, the parameters of credit scoring, the general impact that derogatory data have on a credit score, the interplay between identify theft, credit scoring and credit reporting, and other related matters.

A credit score is a number that reflects a consumer's creditworthiness at a given point in time. The FICO model credit score, which is used by 75 percent of lenders, is based entirely on information in a consumer's credit report. The model was developed by Fair, Isaac & Co., which

licenses it to Equifax, Experian and Trans Union and others. The scoring range for the FICO "classic" model is 300-850. The various types of "Beacon" scores sold by Equifax, and "Classic FICOs" sold by Trans Union, are based upon the FICO model. The higher the credit score, the less risky the consumer is viewed by creditors. Consequently, consumers with higher-end credit scores (720 and above) often can obtain the most favorable rates for mortgages, refinancing, personal and auto loans and auto and homeowners insurance, and also often receive solicitations for the best quality credit cards. Conversely, the lower the score, the less favorable the rate. A credit score of 620 and below is widely regarded as "sub-prime."

Maintaining a good credit score is important because of a fundamental rule: the lower one's score, the more one pays for credit, including higher interest on mortgages, auto loans, installment loans and credit cards.

For example, the Web site of Fair Isaac Corp., <a href="www.myfico.com">www.myfico.com</a>, 8 gives this example of the difference that credit scores make in terms of interest and monthly payments, on a \$300,000 30-year, fixed-rate mortgage:

Your FICO® Score	Your Interest Rate	Your Monthly Payment
760 - 850	6.148%	\$1,827
700 - 759	6.370%	\$1,871
680 - 699	6.654%	\$1,927
660 - 679	7.464%	\$2,090
640 - 659	8.816%	\$2,374
620 - 639	9.782%	\$2,584

A similar chart exists for auto loans. Moreover, about half of the major credit card companies practice "Universal Default," meaning that these companies will raise their cardholders' interest rates if those cardholders' credit scores drop below certain levels – even if the cardholder never had a late payment with the company.

1. The precise workings of the FICO score are highly proprietary and therefore closely guarded. However, the general parameters are publicly available:10

35% -- Payment history. Late payments, particularly major or serious derogatories, like 90-days late or worse, and particularly on important accounts like mortgages, are very damaging to one's credit score.

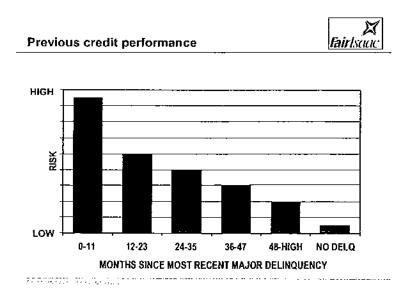
<sup>8</sup> Visited September 21, 2005

These parameters are published in Chpr 1 of both Editions of "Credit Scores and Credit Reports," op. cit.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> In previous years, the Trans Union FICO Score was called "Empirica"

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Universal default is described in detail in Chapter 22 of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition of "Credit Scores and Credit Reports," op. cit.

- 30% -- Credit Utilization. The ratio between available "revolving" credit and how much is actually used (credit card balances vs. credit card limits).
- 15% -- Length of Credit History. The longer you maintain a positive credit history, the better it is for your credit score.
- 10% -- How Much New Credit?. This relates to "inquiries" that creditors make when you apply for credit.
- 5% -- Healthy Mix of Credit? The scoring model prefers to see a "healthy mix" of mortgage, credit cards and perhaps other kinds of credit.
- 2. It is important to understand that consumers are most severely penalized when they have a serious derogatory within the past eleven months. The "importance of being recent" is illustrated by the following Fair Isaac chart, which shows, in a proportional sense, that a major definquency in the past year has a 93% negative impact, while a major delinquency between 1-2 years-old has about a 60% negative impact; a major delinquency between 2-3 years-old has a 44% negative impact; a 3-4 year old delinquency has a 33% impact; any delinquency older than 4 years has only a 22% negative impact.



There is growing public awareness about credit scoring, but it is by no means complete. A September 2004 survey by Opinion Research Corporation Intl. sponsored by the Consumer Federation of America (CFA) and Providian Financial, a major credit card issuer, found that:

Few consumers know what constitutes a good score. Only 12% correctly identified the low 600s as the level below which they would be denied credit or have to pay a higher, sub-prime rate. (One-third thought this level was the low

500s, and 30% said they didn't know.) And, only 13% correctly understand that scores above the low 700s usually qualify them for the lowest rates. <a href="http://www.consumerfed.org/092104creditscores.PDF">http://www.consumerfed.org/092104creditscores.PDF</a>

A March 2005 General Accounting Office study found that about one-third of respondents had obtained their credit scores. While 70 percent of respondents correctly identified the definition of a credit score and understood many of the factors that could impact credit scores, only 28 percent could provide a number within a range of possible credit scores. In addition, consumers were more familiar with some of the factors that affected credit scores than with others. For example, while most consumers knew that skipping loan payments or making late credit card payments had a negative effect on credit scores, about half did not know that using all the credit available to them, such as reaching the maximum limit on a credit card or home equity loan, had a negative effect. Also, when asked about information that had no effect on credit scores (such as a low checking account balance), about half of consumers answered the questions incorrectly or said that they did not know, the GAO found. 11

# Nature & Purpose Of Credit Reports

Similar to credit scoring, there is growing public awareness about the credit reporting system, but it is not universal.

According to a July 2003 survey by the Consumer Federation of America, "Only 25 percent of Americans – and less than 20 percent of those with incomes below \$35,000 – said they knew what their credit score was. But only three percent of Americans could, unprompted, name the three main credit bureaus-Experian, Equifax, and Trans Union-that provide both lenders and consumers with information from credit reports. Forty-three percent of Americans (35 percent of those with incomes below \$35,000) said they had obtained a copy of their credit report from the three credit bureaus in the past two years."

A March 2005 General Accounting office report concluded that the public's understanding of credit reports and credit scores was improving, but that a federal education campaign was needed to better inform those segments of the population that remain unfamiliar with the systems. The report found that 60 percent of respondents had seen their credit reports, most often because they were making a large purchase or refinancing a loan. Most of these consumers said that they understood their reports. However, about half (53 percent) did not know that information could stay on their report for 7 or 10 years. 12

It is important that the trier of fact have an accurate understanding of the nature and purpose of credit reports. Accordingly, a brief description of the consumer report is fundamental to my opinions in this case.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> General Accounting Office, "Credit Reporting Literacy: Consumers Understood the Basics but Could Benefit from Targeted Educational Efforts" (GAO-05-223). <a href="www.gao.gov/new.items/d05223.pdf">www.gao.gov/new.items/d05223.pdf</a>
<sup>12</sup> Ibid.

A consumer report, sometimes referred to as a credit report, consists of highly sensitive and personal information, containing a compilation of a consumer's current credit relationships, their credit history, their employment history, estimated income and identifying information, such as name, address, phone number and Social Security Number (SSN). There are three major repositories known as credit bureaus or consumer reporting agencies (CRAs) -- Equifax, Trans Union and Experian. The CRAs regularly receive updates on a consumer's credit relationships from credit grantors -- banks, mortgage companies, credit card issuers, department stores and others. The consumer report typically contains highly sensitive details about a consumer's finances, including account numbers, loan amounts, credit limits and payment history. It also can contain information on the consumer's interaction with the judicial system, including paid or unpaid civil judgments or bankruptcies.

The Credit Report consists of three (or four) basic sections:

- (1) A section with the consumer's *identifying information*-name, address, Social Security number, date of birth, previous address, employer, and sometimes phone number.
- (2) A section with the consumer's *payment history*, including mortgage, auto and installment loans, credit cards and department store cards, collections, and public records like bankruptcy and court judgments.
- (3) <u>If applicable</u>, a section showing *public record* information, like bankruptcies, court judgments and tax liens.
- (4) A section showing *inquiries*, in other words, those companies which accessed the report and for what purposes.

In addition, attached to the credit report is

- (1) A form for disputing errors, and
- (2) A statement of your rights under the FCRA

Each of the Big Three CRAs uses a slightly different format. A fundamental purpose of the credit report is to describe a consumer's creditworthiness. For example, the Equifax report lists the codes showing how consumers are classified when they don't pay their bills on time. Along with these numeric codes, a credit report can have a letter showing the type of credit, i.e., "R" for revolving (credit card) and "I" for installment (personal loan). The code for someone who always paid her credit card on time would be "R1." Here are the numeric codes:

- 2:30-59 Days Past Due
- 3:60-89 Days Past Due
- 4:90-119 Days Past Due
- 5 : Over 120 Days Past Due
- 7 : Included in Wage Earner Plan
- 8 : Repossession
- 9 : Charge Off
- Blank: No Data available for that month
- 0: Too new to rate, or unrated
- 1 : On Time

The Trans Union and Experian credit reports describe similar categories with a text narrative, rather than with an alpha-numeric code.

It is important to note that public record information like bankruptcy, judgments and tax liens, and charge-offs (R-9) and collections, are considered some of the most negative entries. It is also important to note that when a creditor reports a negative tradeline as disputed, that tradeline typically is not scored and therefore does not negatively impact the credit score.

Credit grantors typically review a consumer's report and/or credit score when deciding to grant that consumer some form of credit, whether it is a loan or a credit card. Credit grantors also review consumer reports and/or credit scores on current customers to periodically check on their customers' creditworthiness. This is known as an "Account Review." Credit card issuers regularly use consumer reports and/or credit scores to screen consumers for "pre-approved" credit offers. Some employers use consumer reports to evaluate job applicants. Insurers use credit reports for underwriting purposes, and also use credit scores, but presumably only where not prohibited by State law.

Credit grantors typically review a consumer's report and/or credit score when deciding to grant that consumer some form of credit. Credit grantors also review consumer reports and/or credit scores on current customers to periodically check on their customers' creditworthiness. This is known as an "Account Review." Credit card issuers regularly use consumer reports and/or credit scores to screen consumers for "pre-approved" credit offers. Some employers use consumer reports to evaluate job applicants. Insurers also can use credit reports for underwriting purposes. Landlords also use credit reports for tenant screening.

## Background & Qualifications (Curriculum Vitae Attached)

My expertise in credit reporting stems from several of my professional activities, including:

- (1) Editor/Publisher of a specialty news reporting service that covers credit reporting, Fair Information practices and related matters;
- (2) Author of the book <u>Credit Scores and Credit Reports: How The System Really Works, What You Can Do</u>, 3rd Edition, (Privacy Times 2005), and co-author of a book with a chapter on credit reporting;
- (3) An expert witness qualified by Federal and State courts in Fair Credit Reporting Act (FCRA) litigation:
- (4) an expert on credit reporting who has testified before Congress on numerous occasions, including four hearings in 2003, and who has testified twice before the California legislature in regards to legislation on the use of financial data, and who regularly presents at Continuing Legal Education and other professional events; and
- (5) an expert consultant to government agencies and private corporations, a member of the Consumer Advisory Council of Experian (one of the three national Credit Reporting Agencies (CRAs), and as one who has earned FCRA Certification from the National Credit Reporting Association (NCRA).

Since 1981, I have been Editor/Publisher of *Privacy Times*, a biweekly, Washington-based newsletter that reports on privacy and information law, including the Fair Credit Reporting Act (FCRA). The newsletter ranges from 8-12 pages, 23 issues per year. Thus, I have researched, written, edited and published many articles on Congressional and State legislative actions, judicial opinions, industry trends and actions, executive branch policies and consumer news as they related to the FCRA.

I am author of the book, <u>Credit Scores and Credit Reports: How The System Really Works, What You Can Do</u> (3<sup>rd</sup> Edition, Privacy Times 2007. The book has 23 Chapters, 399 pages and 415 footnotes. As the title indicates, it describes how the credit scoring and credit reporting systems work and what consumers can do to obtain their reports, read and understand them, correct errors in them and enforce their rights. I also am co-author of <u>Your Right To Privacy: A Basic Guide To Legal Rights In An Information Society</u> (2<sup>nd</sup> Edition, Southern Illinois University Press, 1990), which has a chapter on credit reporting.

Since the early 1990s, I have served as an expert witness in numerous FCRA cases and have been qualified by the federal courts. As an expert witness, I have had the opportunity to read thousands of pages of deposition testimony by consumer reporting agency officials and by credit grantor personnel responsible for reporting data to CRAs. This is significant because CRAs and credit grantors do not openly discuss or publish information on their procedures and

practices for handling personal data. In fact, CRAs typically consider such procedures and practices to be proprietary and/or trade secrets. To my knowledge, the best (and possibly only) sources for finding candid descriptions of CRAs' and credit grantors' procedures and practices in relation to credit reporting data are the depositions of CRA and credit grantor employees in FCRA litigation. Due to my access to this information, I have augmented my specialized body of knowledge on practices and procedures related to credit scoring and credit reporting.

I have testified numerous times before Congress – always by invitation – on issues related to the collection, maintenance, security, use and disclosure of sensitive personal data, including credit reports and other financial information. (Consult CV for list of hearings and Web links to testimony.)

In 2003, the year in which Congress was dedicated to a major upgrade of the FCRA, I testified twice before the Senate and twice before the House, and presented once before the FTC. The hearings covered a wide range of credit reporting issues, accuracy, fairness, privacy, CRA procedures and security:

"The Accuracy of Credit Report Information and the Fair Credit Reporting Act;" Senate Banking Committee, July 10, 2003<sup>13</sup>

"The Role of FCRA in the Credit Granting Process," House Financial Services Subcommittee on Financial Institutions & Consumer Credit, June 12, 2003<sup>14</sup>

"Database Security: Finding Out When Your Information Has Been Compromised," Senate Judiciary Subcommittee on Technology, Terrorism and Government Information, Nov. 4, 2003<sup>15</sup>

"Fighting Fraud: Improving Information Security," House Financial Services Subcommittee on Financial Institutions & Consumer Credit, and Oversight, April 3, 2003<sup>16</sup>

"Information Flows: The Costs and Benefits to Consumers and Businesses of The Collection and Use of Consumer Information," Federal Trade Commission, National Workshop, June 18, 2003

Some of my recommendations were reflected in the final FCRA Amendments approved by Congress and signed by President Bush in December 2003.

On December 3, 2002, I testified before the California State Senate Insurance Committee. On January 29, 2003, I testified before the California State Assembly Insurance Committee. Both Committees were considering financial privacy legislation (SB 1), which ultimately was enacted by the legislature and signed into law in September 2003.

<sup>13</sup> http://banking.senate.gov/03 07hrg/071003/index.htm

http://financialservices.house.gov/hearings.asp?formmode=detail&hearing=229

http://judiciary.senate.gov/testimony.cfm?id=983&wit\_id=2790

http://financialservices.house.gov/hearings.asp?formmode=detail&hearing=202

I regularly present at Continuing Legal Education or professional seminars related to the FCRA. (Consult CV.)

Two of the three major CRAs have acknowledged that I am an expert on credit reporting as it relates to "Fair Information Practices." First developed in the United States in the late 1960s, Fair Information Practices (FIPs) standards are at the core of the FCRA and most other U.S. and European privacy and data protection laws, and serve as an internationally accepted standard for gauging privacy policy and practices.

In 1990, Equifax published "The Equifax Report on Consumers In the Information Age," a nationwide opinion survey and analysis by Louis Harris and Associates and Prof. Alan F. Westin. The report listed me as a privacy expert to whom the authors expressed appreciation for my advice on survey coverage.

In April 2002, I accepted Experian's invitation to serve on the Experian Consumer Advisory Council of Experian (formerly TRW), a national CRA and vendor of other information services. Before being disbanded in 2004, the Council met twice a year to offer non-binding advice and to discuss a host of credit reporting, marketing and other privacy-related topics.

In 2004, I passed an industry examination, thereby earning "FCRA Certification" from the National Credit Reporting Association.

Since August 1998, I have served under contract as a member of the Social Security Administration's Panel Of Privacy Experts advising the agency on a host of issues.

(Please consult the attached CV for additional information.)

# **Testimony & Expert Reports**

Within recent years, I have testified at trial, or been deposed as an expert, in the following cases:

Andrews v. Trans Union Corp. et al., Case No. 96-7369, (USDC-C.D. Calif.), concerning theft-of-identity and consumer report inaccuracies. Expert report, deposition, trial testimony. Judge Lourdes Baird presiding. The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit specifically found that my opinion on the prevalence of identity theft was relevant to the reasonableness of CRA procedures. (see 225 F.3d 1063 (2000)).

Angela P. Williams vs. Equifax Information Services, LLC, et al., Circuit Court for the Ninth Judicial Circuit, Orange County Florida. Credit Reporting. Expert disclosure and report. Deposition. Trial Testimony. Judge George A. Sprinkel IV presiding.

Eric Robert Drew vs. Equifax Information Services, LLC, et al., U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California, Case No. CV 07-00726-SI. Expert report, deposition. Trial testimony. Judge Susan Illston presiding.

<u>Direct Data Solutions, Inc., v. Bailey & Associates Advertising, Inc.</u>: Circuit Court of the Eleventh Judicial Circuit, Miami-Dade County, Florida; Case No.: 07-9322 CA 09. Judge Jerald Bagley presiding.

Brenda F. Campbell v. Experian: U.S. District Court for the Western District of Missouri (No. 07-2514). FCRA. Expert report, deposition. Trial Testimony. Judge Nanette K. Laughrey presiding.

Harold & Beryllin Gamby v. Equifax Information Services, et al.: U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan [Southern Div.] (CV-06-11020-MO). FCRA, identity theft. Expert report. Deposition. Trial Testimony. Judge Marianne O. Battani presiding.

Deborah Adams v. National Engineering Service Corp./Verifications Inc.,: U.S. District Court for the District of Connecticut. 3:07-cv-01035-JCH. FCRA. Expert report, deposition. Trial Testimony. Judge Warren W. Eginton presiding.

<u>Patricia Holmes vs. TeleCheck Intl., Inc.,</u> U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Tennessee (Nashville Div.). FCRA. Expert report. Deposition. Trial Testimony. Chief District Judge Todd J. Campbell presiding.

Rebecca L. Valentine. v. Equifax Credit Information Services, et al.: U.S. District Court for the District of Oregon; No. CV 05-801-JO. FCRA, identity theft. Expert report. Deposition. Trial Testimony. Judge Robert E. Jones presiding.

<u>Nicole Robinson vs. Equifax Information Services, LLC, et al.</u>, U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia (Alexandria Div.), Case No. CIV 1:05 cv 1272. Expert reports. Deposition. Trial Testimony Judge Walter H. Rice presiding.

Suzanne Sloane vs. Equifax Information Services, LLC, et al., U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia (Alexandria Div.), Case No. CIV 1:05 cv 1272. Expert reports. Deposition. Trial Testimony Judge Leonie M. Brinkema presiding.

Matthew Kirkpatrick v. Equifax, LLC, U.S. District Court for District of Oregon, (Slip. Op. CV-02-1197-MO. FCRA Expert report. Trial Testimony. Judge Michael W. Mosman presiding.

<u>Sandra Cortez vs. Trans Union, LLC.</u>, U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania: No. 2:05 -cv-05684-JF. FCRA. Expert Report. <u>Daubert Hearing</u>. Trial Testimony. Senior Judge John P. Fullam qualified me to testify at trial.

Federal Trade Commission vs. Accusearch, Inc., et al., U.S. District Court for the District of Wyoming, Case No. 06CV0105-D. FTC Section 5. Expert Report. U.S. Magistrate Judge William C. Beaman rejected Defendant's motion to exclude my testimony.

Eddie Silva, et al. v. Haynes Furniture Co., Inc.: U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia: No. 4:04CV82. FCRA. Fairness hearing testimony. Judge Walter D. Kelley, Jr. presiding.

<u>Joi Helmes v. Wachovia Bank N.A.</u>: U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of Virginia (Alexandria), Case No: 01-81277-RGM, Chapter 7. Post-bankruptcy credit reporting. Expert report. Deposition. Trial Testimony. Judge Robert G. Mayer presiding.

Alex Campos and Michael York v. ChoicePoint Services, Inc.: U.S. District Court for the District of Georgia (Atlanta), Civ. Action No. 1-03-CV-3577-WSD. FCRA. Expert Declaration. Fairness hearing testimony. Judge William S. Duffey, Jr. presiding.

<u>Denis W. Stasulis v. Suntrust</u>: U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of Virginia (Alexandria), Case No: 04-12542-RGM, Chapter 7. Post-bankruptcy credit reporting. Expert report. Deposition. Trial Testimony. Judge Robert G. Mayer presiding.

<u>Dwaine Perry, et al. v. FleetBoston Financial Corp.</u>: U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania: No. 04-507. FCRA. Expert Report. Fairness hearing testimony. Judge Berle M. Schiller presiding.

Tammy Cochran v. C&M Motors, LLC, dba I-10 Toyota, et al: U.S. District Court for the Central District of California, No. CV-03-3568FMC. FCRA. Expert Report. Trial Testimony Judge Florence-Marie Cooper presiding.

Myra Coleman v. Trans Union LLC, CA4: 98-CV-169B-B (USDC-Mississippi) FCRA. Expert report, deposition, trial testimony. Judge Neal B. Biggers presiding.

- Arthur Spengler v. Sears Roebuck & Co., Case No. C-03-0557. (Circuit Court, Wicomico County, Maryland). Tort, Interference with Business Relationships. Trial Testimony. Judge D. Davis qualified me as expert on credit scoring, credit reporting and FCRA-related issues.
- Judy C. Thomas v. Trans Union LLC, U.S. District Court for the District of Oregon; Case No. 00-1150-JE. FCRA. Expert report, deposition, trial testimony. Magistrate Judge John Jelderks presiding.
- Scott E. Campbell v. G.E. Capital Auto Lease, Circuit Court For St. Mary's County, Maryland, Case No. 99-522. FCRA, invasion of privacy. Expert report, deposition. Judge Karen Abrams qualified me to testify, but the case settled one week before trial.
- Franklin F. Grizzard, Jr. v. Trans Union, L.L.C., & Equifax Information Services L.L.C., et al.: U.S. District Court for the District of Virginia (Richmond Div.); Nos. 04-CV-625 & 04-CV-626, respectively. Expert report. Affidavit. Deposition. On the eve of trial, Judge Richard Williams rejected Defendant's motion to disqualify me. The case settled shortly thereafter.
- <u>Catherine Smith, et al. v. Progressive Corporation, et al.</u>: U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Florida (Gainesville), Case No.1:00-CV-210-MMP. Expert Report, Declaration of Value, Fairness Hearing testimony. Judge Maurice M. Paul presiding.
- Franklin E. Clark, et al. v. Experian, et al.: U.S. District Court for the District of South Carolina, Case Nos. 8:00-1217-22, 8:00-1218-22, 8:00-1219-22. Affidavit, Supplemental Affidavit (both affidavits were admitted into evidence without objection). Judge Cameron McGowan Currie presiding.
- Alana Valerie Sheldon v. Trans Union, LLC., LVNV Funding, LLC, & Resurgent Capital Services L.P.: U.S. District Court for the District of Maryland; 8:08-cv-00057-PJM. Expert report, deposition.
- In Re: Cellphone Termination Fee Cases, Superior Court of the State of California, Alameda County, JCCP No. 4332. Deposition.
- Karl Benedikt v. ChoicePoint, Inc.,: U.S. District Court for the District of New Jersey [Newark Vicinage]; 07-2569. Expert report, deposition.
- Abdirizak Gayre v. CSC Credit Services, Inc., Equifax Information Services, LLC, and Afni, Inc.: U.S. District Court for the District of Minnesota (C.A. No. 07-CV-0622 [JRT/FLN]). FCRA. Expert report, deposition.
- <u>Erin Ayles v. Experian Information Solutions, Inc.</u>: U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia (Alexandria Division); 1:07cv 662. Expert report, deposition.
- Maria D. v. Comcast Corp., Sacramento Superior Court, Case No. 03AS05745. Deposition.

- In Re: Farmers Insurance Co., Inc., FCRA Litigation, U.S. District Court for the Western District of Oklahoma, Case No. CIV 03-158-F. FCRA. Expert report, deposition.
- Steven E. Beck v. Equifax Information Services, et al.; U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia: No. 1-05cv347. FCRA. Expert report, deposition.
- <u>Ford Motor Credit Co. v. Sudesh Agrawal</u>, Court of Common Pleas, Cuyahoga Country, Ohio; Case No. CV04536588. Credit reporting and credit scoring. Deposition.
- <u>Larry Alabran v. Capital One Services, Inc.</u>; U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia (Richmond Division); Case No. 3:04-CV-935. Expert report, deposition.
- Gail Cope v. MBNA American Bank NA: U.S. District Court for the District of Oregon; No. 04-CV-493-JE. Expert report, deposition.
- Robert Gordon Peoples v. Experian Services Corp., et al.: U.S. District Court for the Central District of California: No. CV-04-1378 CAS (Ex). Expert report. Deposition.
- Lottie Robertson v. Experian Information Services, Inc. & Capital One Bank: U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan (Southern Div.) No. 04-72308. Expert report. Deposition.
- Barbara A. Harris v. Experian Information Solutions, Inc., and Equifax Credit Information Services, Inc. U.S. District Court for the District of Oregon, Civil No. 01-1728-JE. FCRA. Expert reports. Deposition
- Bruce Danielson v. Experian Information Solutions: U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Texas, Case No: 3-04CV-1722N. FCRA. Expert report. Deposition.
- Stacy Lawton Guin, et al. v. Brazos Higher Education Service Corporation, Inc.: USDC-Minnesota No. CV 05-668 RHK/JSM. Negligence. Security Breach. Affidavit. Deposition.
- Anthony Chin v. State Dept. Federal Credit Union: Circ. Ct. Prince George's County (Maryland); Civ. Act. No. CAL04-12778; Tort. Deposition. Trial testimony.
- James M. McKeown v. Sears Roebuck & Co., et al: U.S. District Court for the Western District of Wisconsin, Civil No. Case No. 03-CV-0528 C. Expert Report, deposition.
- <u>Paulette Field v. Trans Union LLC, et al.</u>, Case No. 01 C 6390 (USDC-N.D. Illinois Eastern Div. FCRA. Expert report. Deposition.
- Earle E. Ausherman, et al. v. Bank of America Corporation et al.: U.S. District Court for the District of Maryland, Civil Action No. MJG-01-438. FCRA. Expert report. Deposition.
- Jesse Klco v. Elmhurst Dodge, U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois (Eastern Division) Civil Action No. 01 C 0433. FCRA. Expert report, deposition.

(<u>David & Ruthie Keefner v. Webb Ford, Inc. & Deon L. Willis.</u>: U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois (Eastern Division), Civil Action No. 02C-4643. FCRA. Expert report. Deposition.

Anthony & Alethea Preston v. MGIC, U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Florida (Ocala), Case No. 5:03-cv-111-Oc-10GRJ. FCRA. Expert report, deposition.

Bruce Butcher and Pam Butcher v. Chase Manhattan Bank, U.S.A., Inc., U.S. District Court for District of South Carolina, Case No. 8:03-3184-26. FCRA. Expert report, deposition.

### FEE

My fee is \$300 per hour for consulting and for the expert report; \$300 per hour, or a minimum of \$1,200 per day, for deposition or trial testimony, plus reasonable travel time, plus travel costs and expenses.

# Evan D. Hendricks curriculum vitae

#### **Professional Activities**

1981 - Present Editor/Publisher of Privacy Times

Since 1981, I have been Editor/Publisher of *Privacy Times*, a biweekly, Washington-based newsletter that reports on privacy and information law, including the Fair Credit Reporting Act (FCRA). The newsletter ranges from 8-12 pages, 23 issues per year. Thus, I have researched, written, edited and published many articles on Congressional and State legislative actions, judicial opinions, industry trends and actions, executive branch policies and consumer news as they related to the FCRA.

## 1992 - Present Expert Witness

Qualified by the federal courts in FCRA and identity theft cases. (Complete list attached). I have read extensive deposition testimony by credit bureau and credit grantor personnel. This is significant because CRAs and credit grantors do not openly discuss or publish information on their procedures and practices for handling personal data, and the best (and possibly only) sources for finding candid descriptions of CRAs' and credit grantors' procedures and practices in relation to credit reporting data are the depositions of CRA and credit grantor employees in FCRA litigation.

# 1998 - Present Privacy Expert Consultant, U.S. Social Security Administration

Regularly review policies and practices in relation to the collection, use and disclosure of personal data and Social Security numbers and provide feedback and recommendations.

## 2002 - 2004 Member, Experian Consumer Advisory Council

Along with other Council members, I provide an outsider's view on credit reporting, marketing and other privacy issues.

#### July – October 2002 Consultant to U.S. Postal Service

Working with the USPS's Chief Privacy Officer, I assisted in reviewing and editing the re-write of the USPS's Privacy Act notices, with an emphasis on "Plain English."

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# Recent Testimony Before Congress & The FTC

"Credit Reports: Consumers' Ability to Dispute and Change Information," House Financial Services Committee, June 19, 2007.<sup>17</sup>

"Privacy in the Commercial World II," House Energy & Commerce Subcommittee On Commerce, Trade, and Consumer Protection, June 20, 2006<sup>18</sup>

"Financial Data Protection Act of 2005," House Financial Services Subcommittee on Financial Institutions and Consumer Credit, November 9, 2005<sup>19</sup>

"Credit Card Data Processing: How Secure Is It?" House Financial Services Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, July 21, 2005<sup>20</sup>

"Identity Theft: Recent Developments Involving the Security of Sensitive Consumer Information," Senate Banking Committee, March 15, 2005

"The Accuracy of Credit Report Information and the Fair Credit Reporting Act;" Senate Banking Committee, July 10, 2003<sup>22</sup>

"The Role of FCRA in the Credit Granting Process," House Financial Services Subcommittee on Financial Institutions & Consumer Credit, June 12, 2003<sup>23</sup>

"Database Security: Finding Out When Your Information Has Been Compromised," Senate Judiciary Subcommittee on Technology, Terrorism and Government Information, Nov. 4, 2003<sup>24</sup> "Fighting Fraud: Improving Information Security," House Financial Services Subcommittee on Financial Institutions & Consumer Credit, and Oversight, April 3, 2003<sup>25</sup>

"Information Flows: The Costs and Benefits to Consumers and Businesses of The Collection and Use of Consumer Information," Federal Trade Commission, National Workshop, June 18, 2003

#### **Books**

<u>Credit Scores and Credit Reports: How The System Really Works, What You Can Do</u> [3<sup>rd</sup> Edition] (Privacy Times, 2007)

Your Right To Privacy: A Basic Guide To Legal Rights In An Information Society (2<sup>nd</sup> Edition, Southern Illinois University Press, 1990), (Includes a chapter on credit reporting)

Former Secrets: Government Records Made Public Through The Freedom of Information Act (Campaign For Political Rights, 1982)

<sup>17</sup> www.house.gov/apps/list/hearing/financialsvcs\_dent/ht061907.shtml

http://energycommerce.house.gov/108/Hearings/06202006hearing1938/Hendricks.pdf

<sup>19</sup> http://tinancialservices.house.gov/hearings.asp?formmode=detail&hearing=425

http://financialservices.house.gov/hearings.asp?formmode=detail&hearing=407

http://banking.senate.gov/index.cfm?Fuseaction=Hearings.Detail&Hearing1D=144

http://banking.senate.gov/03\_07hrg/071003/index.htm

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> http://financialservices.house.gov/hearings.asp?formmode=detail&hearing=229

http://judiciary.senate.gov/testimony.cfm?id=983&wit\_id=2790

http://fmancialservices.house.gov/hearings.asp?formmode=detail&hearing=202

#### International Lectures

24th International Conference of Data Protection & Privacy Commissioners (Cardiff, Wales – Presentation published in conference proceedings, 2002)

The 23<sup>rd</sup> International Conference of Data Protection Commissioners (Paris, La Sorbonne – Presentation published in conference proceedings, 2001)

The 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Conference on Data Protection (Venice, Italy -- 2000)

The 16th Annual Conference on Data Protection (The Hague, The Netherlands -- 1994). In the 1980s, served as an expert consultant to both the Privacy Commissioner of Canada and Privacy Commissioner of Australia.

## Presentations/Instruction At Recent CLE & Professional Seminars

"Second Law and Information Society Symposium: Enforcement, Compliance and Remedies in the Information Society," Presenter, "Credit Report Cases – Effective Remedies?" Center on Law and Information Policy (CLIP), Fordham Law School, New York, May 29-30, 2008.)<sup>26</sup>
"The 1st Annual Privacy Law Scholars Conference," Presenter, "Assessing Privacy Harm: How can victims of privacy violations prove that they have been harmed? The George Washington University Law School, Washington, DC, June 12-13, 2008.<sup>27</sup>

"11th Annual Consumer Financial Services Litigation," Practicing Law Institute, March 20-21, 2006 (New York City)

"Bankruptcy Roundtable," and, "Fair Credit Reporting Act Roundtable," National Consumer Law Center, October 27, 2005

"Advanced Consumer Litigation," Texas Bar CLE, Feb. 10-11, 2005

"Financial Privacy Litigation," (Impact of FACT Act), Practicing Law Institute, February 28- March 1, 2005 (New York City)

"The New FACT Act: Challenge & Oppty.," Privacy & American Business, Feb. 9-10, 2004 "Understanding the FACT Act And The Impact of Multi-Agency Rulewriting Process,"

Glasser LegalWorks, Sept. 28-29. 2004 "12th Annual National Conference," National Credit Reporting Association, Nov. 10-12, 2004

Professional Societies
Past President & Board Member, American Society of Access Professionals <a href="https://www.accesspro.org">www.accesspro.org</a>
Industry Certification

FCRA Certification, National Credit Reporting Association (www.ncrainc.org).

#### Media

In addition to being a paid consultant and special guest on CNN's IMPACT news in 1996, I am quoted regularly by major and small newspapers (including The Washington Post, New York Times, Wall Street Journal, Chicago Tribune, Los Angeles Times, Newsweek and Money Magazine), regarding issues of privacy generally and the privacy implications of consumer reporting specifically. I have appeared on National Public Radio, PBS NewsHour with Jim Lehrer, ABC Nightline and World News Tonight, NBC Nightly News, CBS Evening News, CNN News Watch, CNBC, MSNBC, Fox News, various local affiliates, and the Oprah Winfrey Show and Geraldo, regarding these issues as well.

#### Education

Bachelor of Arts, Columbia College, Columbia University, New York, N.Y. (1979)

http://law.fordham.edu/ihtml/eventitemPP.ihtml?id=37&idc=8943&template=clip

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> http://privacyscholars.com

# MATERIALS CONSIDERED

In specific preparation for this case, I have reviewed the following:

Plaintiffs' Complaint & Attached Exhibits Plaintiffs' credit reports Plaintiff's deposition Documents cited in this report

I also generally rely upon:

The Fair Credit Reporting Act & Consumer Credit Reporting Reform Act of 1996 Fair Credit Reporting Act (w/ Companion Disk & 2000 Cumulative Supplement, National Consumer Law Center, 1998 (Boston)

Credit Scores and Credit Reports: How The System Really Works, What You Can Do (3<sup>rd</sup> Edition, Privacy Times 2007),

My opinions in this case are also based on my 31-year profession of following privacy developments including those relating to the consumer reporting and information broker industry and the criminal justice system as a journalist, editor, publisher and privacy expert. My experience includes listening to and participating in dozens of hours of Congressional testimony, hearings before the Federal Trade Commission, media coverage, studies by independent groups, my own personal observations and numerous contacts, and my previous work preparing to be an expert witness in other FCRA cases.

Executed This The 9th Day of November 2011 in Bethesda, Maryland

/s/ Evan D. Hendricks

Evan D. Hendricks PO Box 302 Cabin John, MD 20818 (301) 229 7002